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Ba-Gad may be censured for announcing soldier's 'kidnapping'

LIAT COLLINS and DAN IZENBERG

KNESSET House Committee chairman Haggai Merom said yesterday he would consult with the Knesset legal adviser on possible disciplinary action against MK Yosef Ba-Gad (Moledet), who violated army censorship by stating during live broadcasts that a soldier had been kidnapped by terrorists.

The IDF Spokesman later denied the claim, which originated several hours earlier in an anonymous phone call to Israel Radio.

The army yesterday said that no soldier is missing from his unit, nor is there any record of a soldier named Ilan Mordechai missing or going AWOL.

The anonymous caller, identifying himself as a Hamas spokesman, did not provide any proof that he was holding a soldier. In some previous cases, Hamas provided a stolen ID card or military ID documents to prove that they kidnapped a soldier.

In an official statement, the army said it would continue to verify details before dismissing the matter altogether.

Ba-Gad's comments came unexpectedly during a routine discussion in the Knesset plenum on an amendment to the Consumer Law. "I am sorry to inform you that at this very moment another soldier from the French Hill has been kidnapped," he said, catching the plenum by surprise. "I cannot divulge his name even though I have it before me because it would be irresponsible to do so as long as the family has not been informed. For some reason, the radio and television are concealing the news."

Struggling to maintain control and stop Ba-Gad from talking, Deputy Speaker Salah Tarif ordered him to leave the podium and an uproar broke out when he refused to step down.

After the House Committee meeting, Ba-Gad told *The Jerusalem Post* he had believed the information was true when he announced it and apologized to families who had panicked about their relatives in the army. Earlier, he told the committee he had learned about the alleged kidnapping from five Knesset ushers and a faction secretary.

The committee meeting was one of the stormiest ever. MKs, including those not members of the committee, crowded the room, particularly when it became clear that Channel 1 was broadcasting live.

Knesset Speaker Shevah Weiss described Ba-Gad's action as "despicable" and called on the MKs to take "serious measures" against him. He said his office had been flooded with phone calls from dozens of worried families.

MK Avi Yehekel (Labor) called Ba-Gad "a mad liar. We need to transfer Ba-Gad out of the Knesset. If we don't bring him down, he will bring the Knesset down."

Ran Cohen (Meretz) said Ba-Gad had "sowed the seeds of panic in the public we are meant to protect" and asked, "how much did Hamas pay you?"

Tamar Gozansky (Hadash) said the Knesset House Rules had no guidelines on how to deal with such behavior "because we've never witnessed such behavior before."

Despite the anger, the committee found it was helpless to take practical measures against Ba-Gad. Merom and Knesset legal adviser Zvi Inbar informed the MKs that the House Rules did not empower it to punish MKs. The only punitive process open to the Knesset is through the Knesset Ethics Committee, which can, at the most, suspend wayward MKs for a limited number of plenary sessions.

Ra'anan Cohen (Labor) called on Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair to lift Ba-Gad's parliamentary immunity and put him on trial. But Merom and others said that parliamentary immunity empowered MKs to say anything from the Knesset podium without fear of punishment.

Alon Pinkas contributed to this report.

Palestinian policemen fired first in Gaza clash – IDF

ALON PINKAS, JON IMMANUEL and news agencies

THE three Palestinian policeman killed Monday night by an IDF patrol near Beit Hanun in the Gaza Strip shot first, and then refused to put down their weapons, according to an IDF investigation of the incident.

However the Palestinian Authority yesterday denied the three policemen fired first.

In Cairo yesterday, a shadow was cast over talks between Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian chief negotiator Nabil Shaath in the aftermath of the killings. Each side had brought examples of how the other violated the peace accord.

The investigation was commissioned by OC Southern Command Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, OC Gaza Brig.-Gen. Doron Almog, and Brig.-Gen. Yom-Tov Samia, head of the Israeli-Palestinian liaison committee. Immediately after the incident they met with Gen. Nasr Yousef.

(Continued on Page 2)



Palestinian policemen chant 'Death to Israel' while riding on top of a truck during yesterday's funeral for three comrades in Gaza. (Reuter)

Treasury to reduce employers' health tax

Agrees to lower income taxes, calls for rate cut

JOSE ROSENFELD and MICHAL YUDELMAN

THE Treasury announced yesterday that since the Histadrut was unable to agree on a package deal to reduce labor costs and the workers' health tax, it had decided to reduce labor costs unilaterally by reducing the employers' health tax *(mas makbil)* by 2%.

The attempt to lower labor costs is part of the effort to reduce inflationary pressures.

The Treasury also agreed to lower income taxes by NIS 300 million. It called for the Bank of Israel to cut interest rates in return for agreeing to these two moves.

Senior Histadrut officials were furious that the government is reducing the health tax for employers only, leaving the workers to pay the full sum, and raised the possibility of a general strike.

The package deal that had been discussed would have cut the employees' health tax by 1.4% against a reduction of 2% in their cost-of-living wage adjustment. The new proposal reduces the employers' health tax contribution by about 2% from the current 4.95%, without any change to the COL agreement.

The Treasury plans to complete discussions on the new proposal within two weeks. The changes would take effect with the payment of February salaries.

The government also proposes to cut approximately NIS 300m. in income taxes, either by providing working women an additional tax credit point to neutralize higher National Health Insurance costs, or by broadening existing tax brackets.

The proposal will cost over NIS 1 billion and require between NIS 500m.-600m. in additional budget cuts. The Treasury has already set aside NIS 450m. to pay for the package, Brodet said.

Sending an unequivocal message to the Bank of Israel, Brodet said, "We think that the process of reducing labor costs requires a reduction in interest rates, since the conditions have ripened for such reduction.

"We expect the Bank of Israel to cut interest rates as a first step together with this move, accompanied by further reductions to bring interest rates in tune with the inflation goal, ranging between 8% and 11%," he added.

The Bank of Israel took a wait-and-see approach to the Treasury's proposal, saying it would consider it and would react based on its impact on inflation.

Histadrut Trade Union Section chairman Amir Peretz said, "The minister would have taken a more desirable and respectable move, had he divided the 2% health tax [reduction] between the employers and workers."

Peretz denied the move weakened the Histadrut's position.

Manufacturers Association president Dan Propper, said that while the 2% drop is a move in the right direction, other changes are also needed.

He called on the government to take additional steps to help improve profits from exports and increase the industrial sector's competitive capability.

Propper called upon the government to concurrently implement measures to increase savings, reduce demand and speed up privatization process.

Galit Lipkis Beck contributed to this report.

Histadrut in double bind, Page 12

Palestinian Police detain undercover soldiers

ALON PINKAS

GAZA Palestinian Police commander Nasr Yousef announced last night his force had arrested and later released 10 undercover soldiers.

"We arrested in the southern part of the Gaza Strip around 10 Israelis in plain clothes," Yousef told reporters in the Strip.

The IDF initially denied the report, saying no IDF soldiers had been arrested in the autonomous areas yesterday. However, army sources said a group of undercover soldiers had followed a suspicious-looking car into the autonomous area. However, after investigating and releasing the driver, their vehicle became stuck in the mud. While attempting to free themselves, the group was detained by Palestinian policemen, who brought them to the joint liaison office, where they were questioned for about half an hour and released.

Entire cabinet to review settlement expansion plans

DAVID MAKOVSKY and HERB KEINON

THE whole cabinet will now review any new plans for settlement expansion, with the intention of restricting future construction in the settlements, two ministers confirmed yesterday.

Meanwhile, an interministerial committee met yesterday to approve the private construction of 268 units on Givat Hazayit, the hill adjacent to Efrat. Construction on Givat Hatamar, the hill closer to El-Khader, has been stopped.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told Palestinian negotiators yesterday in Cairo that there would be no more land expropriations.

"No doubt the main result of the whole Efrat affair is that the whole cabinet itself is now going to monitor settlements," Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban said. "Efrat is a turning point. There will be closer scrutiny than there has been until now, dramatically constraining any further any plans that may be under way."

Tzaban said Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin had agreed to this during Monday's cabinet meeting.

Justice Minister David Liba'i also confirmed that there would be full cabinet review of settlement construction, in remarks to reporters after yesterday's interministerial committee meeting.

The push for full cabinet review was made by ministers furious that Rabin, Housing Minister Ben-Eliezer, and NRP MK Hanan Porat had come to an understanding on the construction in Efrat a year ago without informing the government.

Tzaban said the cabinet will not review plans for housing inside Jerusalem's municipal

(Continued on Page 2)

Mubarak: Summit didn't try to slow normalization

DAVID MAKOVSKY

LAST week's Alexandria summit among the leaders of Egypt, Syria, and Saudi Arabia was not directed at "slow[ing] down the normalization" between Arab states and Israel, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak told Israeli reporters in Cairo yesterday.

"We did not speak against peace," Mubarak declared. "There is no plan directed at Israel. There is no freezing relations with Israel, or as they say: 'Slow down the normalization.' This never happened."

Mubarak made his remarks to reassure the Israeli public after Syrian officials suggested at the summit that Syria wanted assurances it would not be isolated in the peace process with Israel, and opposing peace moves by Gulf and Maghreb states with Israel.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who was in Cairo yesterday for scheduled talks with the Palestinians, received an update from Mubarak on the summit with Syrian President Hafez Assad and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd.

Meanwhile, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said unequivocally that Cairo remains at odds with Israel's policy not to sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) when the accord comes up for renewal in April.

"We don't have to agree with all what you believe in. Nor do we ask you to agree with what we say. So, we differ and you have to accept that we differ with Israel on the question of NPT, on the question of the nuclear issue," Moussa told Israeli reporters traveling with Peres.

"We have a way to discuss it.

(Continued on Page 2)

Battered wife killed by husband in Kiryat Shmona

DAVID RUDGE

BATTERED wife Jaqueline Assraf was shot to death by her husband on the steps of her Kiryat Shmona home yesterday morning, police said.

Gabby Assraf, 34, who had already served two years in prison for stabbing his wife, gave himself up at the police station in the northern town after the shooting.

Police and welfare agencies said everything possible had been done to protect the 30-year-old mother of two, in accordance with the law. At the time of his wife's murder, Assraf was under a three-month court order banning him from her home.

Jaqueline Assraf was the first fatal victim of spousal violence so far this year – following the deaths of 19 women at the hands of their spouses or common-law husbands in 1994.

After serving two years for stabbing his wife, Assraf went back to his family and they subsequently moved to Kiryat Shmona from the Haifa area.

The social and welfare services continued to assist the couple, helping both to get jobs. While Assraf apparently failed to find stable employment, his wife had a job working at the check-out counter of a local supermarket.

Colleagues at the supermarket where Jaqueline Assraf worked said she had been in fear for her life.

Galilee district police spokesman Supt. Benny Eliezer said she had filed a complaint last November that her husband was abusing her. He was ordered by police to stay away from his wife and their home for 10 days. The order was later extended by a court to three months and Assraf went to live with his sister in Kiryat Shmona.

It was from there, according to police, that he took an IDF-issue Galil rifle belonging to his soldier nephew and walked to his wife's home.

She was hurrying to work – the couple's two children, aged six and eight, were still at home – when Assraf met her on the stairs

(Continued on Page 2)

Ministry of Education and Culture

Children Absorb More Quickly

עולה חדש
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Government Press Office

You can depend on kids: they know how to study together, play together and have fun together.
They know how to be friends.
This year 111,000 new immigrant children are being absorbed into the school system.
This is a chance for all of us to make 111,000 new friends.

A NEW IMMIGRANT.
A NEW FRIEND.

Security officer's wife killed in Nigeria

BATSHEVA TSUR

SHIRA Arnon, the wife of an Israeli diplomat serving in Nigeria, was murdered during an armed robbery in southern Nigeria, the Foreign Ministry announced yesterday.

Arnon, 23, was stabbed to death by attackers on Monday night while traveling by car in southern Nigeria. Two Finnish diplomats who were with the Arnons were reportedly injured. Shira's husband, David, a security officer at the embassy in Lagos, escaped unharmed.

The exact circumstances of the incident could not be ascertained yesterday. It was not clear whether David was in the car when the vehicle was attacked. The Foreign Ministry statement noted that "this is not the first time foreign nationals and diplomats have been attacked in Nigeria."

The political and economic woes in Nigeria have led to an increase in crime in that country, Uri Savir, charge d'affaires at the Israeli Embassy, explained yesterday in an interview with Israel Radio. He said arrangements were being made to fly the coffin back home.

Ayo Olukanni, first counselor at the Nigerian Embassy in Tel Aviv, said a special unit had been created in the Nigerian national police for the protection of the diplomatic community. But, he said, protection was provided outside Lagos only on special request. Olukanni expressed his government's regrets over the incident.

Shira Arnon was born on Sde Eliahu in the Beit She'an Valley. She married David a year ago. She is survived by her parents, Miriam and Meno Cohen, two brothers and a sister.

MUBARAK

(Continued from Page 1)

Perhaps we can reach a solution, perhaps we can reach an agreement. Perhaps we won't reach an agreement and then we will take measures commensurate with this," he said.

Egypt has openly been calling for other Arab nations not to sign the NPT until Israel does. So far, Syria is the only Arab state known to support Egypt's call.

A senior official in the Clinton administration has said the US does not expect Israel to sign the NPT when it comes up for renewal. However, he did voice hope that Israel would do something to end the current impasse with Egypt. Vice President Al Gore is expected to raise this issue when he visits Egypt and Israel later this month.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The weekly meeting of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. R/George Warshawsky will speak on Mondial International.

CLARIFICATION

President Ezer Weizman has accepted an invitation in principle to pay a visit to Germany during the coming year, presidential bureau chief Arye Shumer said yesterday. The invitation was extended by German President Roman Herzog during his visit to Jerusalem last month. No official date has been set for the visit.



Fatah anniversary celebrations in Nablus turn violent yesterday as protesters force Arafat representative Marwan Barghouti to flee. (Khaled Zhigari)

Arafat proxy forced to flee Fatah celebration in Nablus

JON IMMANUEL

THE 30th anniversary celebrations of Fatah in Nablus yesterday got out of hand, when protesters tried to prevent one of the featured speakers from addressing the large crowd by throwing bottles and stones at the speaker's podium.

The target was Fatah secretary Marwan Barghouti, who had offended the strong Nablus branch of Fatah by denying local speakers the right to address the crowd in the name of refugees who were unable to attend, local sources said.

According to one source, Barghouti had joked that if everyone has a right to speak in the name of everyone else, Israeli settlers should also be invited.

The comparison with settlers offended many, some of whom sent off a letter to Fatah and PLO leader Yasser Arafat demanding that Barghouti stay away from the celebration. The letter was seen as an attempt to remove Barghouti from his position as chief Fatah organizer outside Gaza.

However, Barghouti turned up at the 5,000-strong gathering, indicating that Arafat had ignored the letter. He was forced to leave and protesters pelted his departing car with stones. One protester fired fives shots in the air from a pistol, a source said.

Tayeb Abdel-Raheem, the secretary-general of Fatah, representing Arafat, was with Barghouti.

Local sources denied reports that Hamas activists were involved in the fighting.

In the Hebron area yesterday, Itim reported that some 20 Hamas activists were arrested in a continuing IDF crackdown.

In the Hebron University student elections, the Islamic block took all nine seats, which was not unexpected as it has controlled the student council since 1987.

Statistics: Wife murders decreasing

BACKGROUND

RAINE MARCUS

JACQUELINE Assraf was the first woman to be murdered by her husband in 1995. Last year 19 women were murdered by their husbands, but statistics show that such killings are gradually decreasing.

In 1993, 22 women were murdered by their husbands, but the previous year 42 women met their deaths at the hands of their spouses.

Until now police have not kept figures of women killed by their husbands, but have promised that from this year such statistics will be recorded separately from other murders.

Police officers countrywide recently completed the fifth training course dealing in battered women, and commanders say they are making every attempt to deal with the matter efficiently.

"But we can't post a policeman outside every battered woman's door," Supt. Malka Sofer, who specializes in the subject, said yesterday.

MKs Dalia Itzik and Anat Maor met with Justice Minister David Liba'i yesterday and demanded an urgent meeting to discuss the legal system's attitude towards violent husbands.

"Yesterday's incident just proves that the legal system screwed up," Itzik said. "We have no choice. We will have to ... propose legislation regarding minimum sentences for violent husbands. What was the judge who imprisoned Assraf for three [sic] years thinking of when he wrote his sentencing? Didn't his hand tremble? This was a clear-cut case of attempted murder. He stabbed her. I wonder if that judge sleeps well tonight."

Assraf was a potential killer, said Itzik, and the judge should have foreseen such an incident on his release from prison.

Itzik and Maor believe the treatment of battered women should be taken out of police hands and handled by the government.

"There should be a separate institution with a policeman, a lawyer, a social worker, and a psychologist to take care of all aspects of the issue and make it easier for the [battered] woman to receive professional guidance and help, as well as lodge a complaint," said Itzik.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal said recently that women often withdraw their complaints against violent husbands for fear of retribution. But Sofer said the attitude of police has changed.

"Police take such matters extremely seriously and have the final say whether a woman is allowed to withdraw her complaint," she said. But she agreed some women are too scared to turn to police for help.

WIFE KILLING

(Continued from Page 2)

and opened fire, police said, killing her on the spot.

A neighbor, Yitzhak Mouyal, said he heard a number of shots.

"He fired one shot, then another, and then another. It was something terrible," Mouyal told reporters at the scene.

Assraf, accompanied by his brother, then went to the local police station and told officers he had killed his wife.

Liat Collins adds:

The Knesset reacted to the report of the murder with calls for a parliamentary committee of inquiry and denouncements across the political spectrum.

MKs Yael Dayan (Labor), Limor Livnat (Likud), and Naomi Chazan (Meretz) asked that their demand for an inquiry be urgently brought before the Knesset.

MK Ron Nahman said shelters for battered women should be established in every town in the country.

A number of women's groups will hold a rally tonight in Tel Aviv.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Two killed, 9 hurt on roads

Two persons were killed and nine hurt in three road accidents yesterday. Hanna Ghanem, 50, of Beit Jann was killed, and her husband, Assad, seriously injured last night when their car swerved to avoid another vehicle and crashed into a stone wall in the village. Their son, Salman, 11, was lightly hurt.

Near Afula yesterday morning, a pedestrian was killed when he was struck by a truck on the Sargel Road. Also in the morning, one man was seriously injured and six persons were lightly injured in a head-on collision between near Taiba. *Itim*

5 years for Hamas courier

THE Ramallah Military Court yesterday sentenced an Arab-American convicted of channeling funds to Hamas to five years in prison. Mohammed Salah, 41, a naturalized US citizen from the Chicago area, was arrested in January 1993 and has been on trial behind closed doors for the past year.

Salah was convicted of belonging to Hamas and carrying in funds for the outlawed organization. He and another naturalized American arrested at the same time, Mohammed Jarad, were accused of funneling $650,000 to Hamas. Jarad was released in July 1993 after a six-month sentence.

Sneh: Tougher terror policy

SPECIAL units locate and eliminate terror cells before they set out on missions against Israel, Health Minister Ephraim Sneh revealed yesterday. *Amir Rozenblit*

Winning cards and numbers

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis Chance draw, the lucky cards were the King of spades, nine of hearts, nine of diamonds, and seven of clubs. In the Lotto drawing, the winning numbers were 10, 12, 13, 23, 42, and 45. The supplementary number was 32.

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MAX ALPERIN

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Eliezer Shavit
Director General

Our dear

PNINA LIFSHITZ

has died in old age.

The funeral will take place today, Wednesday, January 4, 1995, at 12 noon, at Kiryat Shaul Cemetery. We shall meet at the entrance gate.

Mourners:
Son and daughter-in-law: **Rachel and Avreshka**
Grandchildren: **Modi and Rutti**
Boaz and Leah
Amos and Yael
Great-grandchildren, and all the family

Palestinians claim land near Ariel and Morag

HERB KEINON

THE "fire" that started at Givat Hatamar in Efrat nearly two weeks ago continued to spread yesterday, as Palestinians protested what they claimed is the confiscation of their land near the settlements of Ariel and Morag.

Dozens of Palestinians from the village of Iskaka, near Ariel, protested at the site where a security road and a fence encircling the settlement was being built, saying that some 500 dunams of their land was being confiscated.

The protesters were joined by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's adviser Ahmed Tibi, Faisal Husseini, Hadash MK Hashem Mahameed, and Palestinian Authority Information Minister Yasser Abed Rabbo. The IDF declared the site a closed military area and ordered the protesters to disperse.

"We stress that there will be no negotiations and no peace as long as the tractors do not stop, and settlers do not stop stealing land in the heart of Palestine lands," Rabbo told the demonstrators.

Dina Shalit, an adviser to Ariel Mayor Ron Nahman, said that the land in question is state land that falls inside the settlement's master plan.

"Efrat set a precedent," she said. "We will see that what happened there will happen everywhere a tractor starts to work on land in Judea and Samaria."

Meanwhile, dozens of Palestinians near the settlement of Morag in Gush Katif congregated for the second consecutive day on land that is being worked by the moshav, claiming that it is theirs. The IDF quickly removed them from the area.

The joint Palestinian-Israeli liaison committee met on the matter in the afternoon, and decided to give the Palestinians 24 hours to prove that the land is theirs or Morag will be able to resume work on it.

Baram's Jericho visit canceled

HAIM SHAPIRO

TENSION between Israel and the Palestinians led to the cancellation of a planned visit to Jericho yesterday by Tourism Minister Uzi Baram and a group of Israeli tour operators as guests of the Palestinian Authority.

Baram said he could not enter the town because the Palestinians would not allow Israeli guards to check his route in advance, although this had been agreed upon earlier.

PA Tourism Minister Elias Freij was not present, although it was he who had invited Baram and the tour operators. Freij sent word that he was ill.

Baram said the incident was no doubt related to the Monday killing of three Palestinian policemen by IDF soldiers in Gaza.

"Yesterday was a hard day," Baram said. Although he believed that such tension could hurt tourism between Israel and the PA, he did not envision long-term damage.

Mohammed Jadala, director of the Jericho Tourism Office, insisted that Baram's entourage had decided not to go through with the visit, for reasons of their own.

"We allowed the security guards to come with the minister," he said.

Jadala said Israeli tourists were welcome in all of Jericho. He said the city was very safe and secure, especially in the downtown area.

However, the group of some 20 tour operators, who voted overwhelmingly not to go through with the visit, appeared unconvinced.

Gad Greiver, director of the Patra Travel Agency, said that the operators wanted to use Jericho as a stop, but they saw that there were still problems.

"I send over 250 buses a year [to the area] and they will not pass through Jericho, because if the minister is not safe, then tourists are definitely not safe," Greiver said.

Hanoch Segev, president of Christian Tours, expressed surprise that Freij, the host, had not appeared.

"We came on the understanding that we would have a working session and we would be able to ask questions," Segev said.

Jadala did tell them that the Palestinian Authority had acquired insurance for politically motivated violence against tourists. The insurance, he said, would cover tourists wherever they were in Jericho, whether on the highway or off the highway.

Israeli insurance companies have indicated that motorists are covered as long as they are driving along the main highway.

However, on this point the operators were also dissatisfied. If an incident did occur, they asked, it was still unclear how they would go about claiming compensation for the victim from the Palestinian Authority.

Even if the insurance did cover tourists for political violence, they said, it was still unclear what sort of insurance coverage there was for victims of ordinary accidents.

The operators also expressed uncertainty as to how the PA Tourism Ministry would function with only five employees. Freij himself, who is in ill health also had responsibilities as the mayor of Bethlehem and as an international emissary for the Palestinians, they noted.

Sarah Honig adds:

Labor Secretary-General Nissim Zvilli also had to cancel a planned trip to Jericho yesterday, after his would-be PLO hosts phoned and told him to stay at home.

Zvilli was due in Jericho to meet with heads of the PA there.

POLICEMEN

(Continued from Page 1)

commander of the Palestinian Police, and assured him the IDF would investigate the incident.

According to the report, an IDF unit on routine patrol from the Erez checkpoint along the Green Line approached a Palestinian Police position some 200 meters north of Beit Hanun. The patrol was then fired at from a building behind a barrier separating Israel and the Palestinian autonomous area.

The patrol alerted reinforcements, who arrived immediately and crossed the fence, returning fire. The report notes that prior to the second exchange of fire, the reinforcement unit called on the Palestinians, who were not identified immediately as policemen, to stop firing and to lay down their weapons.

The report says that one Palestinian policemen stepped out of the building with his arms up, but shortly after more automatic fire came from the building. A soldier then threw a hand grenade into the building, killing the three policemen.

A Southern Command officer said yesterday the soldiers reacted properly and according to all regulations and guidelines governing such situations.

"We don't have the slightest doubt that shots were fired at the soldiers from the building. I would not be surprised to find out that those policemen were Hamas members in uniform. This is not the first incident of this kind, but we do not always have unequivocal proof of who exactly fired, so we refrain from responding," said the officer.

Among the thousands of mourners yesterday at the funerals of the policemen were representatives from all major factions. The services were held at the Katiba Mosque in the Rimal neighborhood of Gaza. Supporters of Izzadin Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas, shouted, "Death to Israel. We swear revenge, Rabin, you are a coward and a villain."

A spokesman in the office of Planning Minister Nabil Shaath said that one of the men was shot in his bed, thereby proving the police had been caught by surprise and had reacted only defensively.

By last night, there were still conflicting accounts of what happened. One scenario taken seriously is that the initial burst of gunfire at an IDF patrol came from gunmen who then fled. As the soldiers fired back, the police thought they were under fire, and opened fire on the soldiers. This precipitated the IDF pursuit which ended in the policemen's deaths.

One policeman surrendered, but others continued firing, including one who shouted "Allahu Akhbar" as he was killed, according to the soldiers involved. Although this cry is frequently shouted by Hamas gunmen, it is also shouted by religious Moslems in life-threatening situations.

An official Palestinian Police statement said: "Israeli soldiers went over our border and began intensive shooting including anti-tank missiles and flares. The Israeli forces broke into the positions of our three fallen martyrs while they were defending their positions and their land."

Tarik Masri, Mohammed Sharif, and 'Abdel-Sallam Eid, who came from Libya to join the police in May, were buried with a 21-gun salute.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat shouted over the cries of the grieving crowd, "You are the martyrs of Palestine and of Jerusalem. You were killed defending Palestinian lands. We congratulate you on your jihad and your struggle. We can never be defeated. Our weapon which is faith is stronger."

Hamas published a leaflet in Gaza calling on activists "to take revenge as soon as possible ... our people are waiting impatiently for the landslide of Palestinian revenge."

Shaath told a news conference in Cairo that, "There is no doubt there is a major sense of urgency and crisis that has brought us here to this meeting. We are facing a real crisis."

He added: "I would really not be telling you the truth if I say things are easy. They are not easy, they are very tough."

At the same time, Shaath said the Palestinians would not give up the road to peace despite the difficulties.

Shaath said the government should block all construction at existing settlements as well as abiding by its agreement not to build new ones. He also demanded that Israel cease building in east Jerusalem.

Peres responded that Jerusalem is a closed issue and could only be raised in final status talks, Israel Radio reported.

EXPANSION

(Continued from Page 1)

borders, though he said he had asked the cabinet to debate this topic.

Meanwhile, officials in Efrat expressed satisfaction that the government okayed construction of the new neighborhood on Givat Hazayit, though they voiced concern about the precedent it set by stopping work on land bought by Jews.

"I have mixed feelings," said Efrat Local Council head Yinon Ahiman. "In the current situation I see being able to build Hazayit tomorrow as a some consolation. I hope that we will be able to return to Hatamar, which will remain within Efrat's jurisdictional boundaries."

Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, Efrat's chief rabbi, said that from "an Efrat perspective, the positive [parts of the agreement] outweigh the negative, and the principal of continuing to build in Judea and Samaria has been upheld"

On the other hand, he added, "There is a profound problem with the agreement. That the legal rights of Jews in the land of Israel have been pushed aside in favor of the forces of violence and terror is a humiliating defeat."

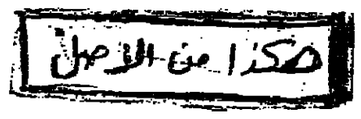
Others in Efrat, however, came out squarely against the agreement. Eve Harow, one of the heads of the Efrat Action Committee that has opposed Ahiman's "pragmatic" approach to the peace process and the Rabin government, said her group will actively fight the agreement.

"We can't accept any compromise," Harow said. "Hatamar belongs to us. For the Arabs in El-Khader it doesn't make any difference if it is Givat Hatamar or Hazayit. They will oppose any new building."

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Number of transplant hospitals faces cut

JUDY SIEGEL

IN two years, there will be only one or two hospitals authorized to perform liver or heart transplants, instead of the current three allowed to perform each procedure, a Health Ministry official said yesterday.

The Health Ministry may also cut down the number of kidney-transplant centers from six to one.

But although the ministry plans to reduce the number of organ transplant centers in 1997, it recently allowed Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer to become the third liver-transplant center and Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital to be the sixth performing kidney transplants.

Dr. Ami Barzilai, head of the ministry's national transplant coordination center, explained this seeming contradiction by saying: "We are increasing the number in order to reduce the number later. We will give Sheba and Ichilov the chance to prove themselves. Hospitals with the highest success rates will be allowed to continue, while the others will have to shut down their transplant services."

Studies on organ transplants have consistently shown that teams that perform more operations have the greatest success, due to more experience.

But only 21 liver transplants were performed last year, even though some 60 patients are waiting for new livers; the shortage of donor organs has limited expansion. Thus three centers – Hadassah, Beilinson and Sheba – will now be competing for a small number of patients, reducing the amount of experience each team can accumulate.



Leading British jurist Lord Woolf (right) visits at the Supreme Court yesterday with President Justice Meir Shamgar. Woolf is here at the head of a Joint Israel Appeal study tour, which includes eminent members of the bar and bench. (Shlomi Ben-Amy)

Ben-Yair given 30 days to justify his plan for Druse trust fund feud compromise

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice yesterday gave the attorney-general 30 days to justify his interim proposal for the management of Druse religious trusts, and said that for now, the funds will continue to be managed by the Tarif family.

MK Sallah Tarif (Labor), who filed one of the petitions against the attorney-general's recommendations, had suggested a compromise whereby Sheikh Muwafak Tarif's management would be overseen by an independent accountant, agreed on by both of the feuding Druse parties, until the High Court's final decision on the issue.

Justices Gavriel Bach, Mishael Cheshin and Dalia Dorner welcomed the suggestion, but it was rejected by the Tarif family's opponents, a group of secular Druse led by MK Assad Assad (Likud).

The justices therefore said they had no choice but to leave Sheikh Muwafak in charge, since they could not issue an interim injunction that changed the existing situation without both sides' consent.

The decision was the latest development in a secular-religious war within the Druse community over management of the religious trusts, which were controlled by spiritual leader Sheikh Amin Tarif until his death last year. Tarif had appointed his grandson, Muwafak, to assume his role, but the decision was successfully challenged in a Druse religious court by Assad's group.

Members of Muwafak's faction then petitioned the High Court, which issued both a show-cause order and an interim injunction against the Druse court's decision.

However, the High Court had also asked Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair to recommend an interim arrangement for running the trusts until it made a final decision. Ben-Yair's recommendation turned out to be similar to the Druse court's decision: Let each house of worship choose a representative; let these representatives choose a council; and let the council run the trusts.

Both Muwafak's faction and Sallah Tarif then petitioned the court against this suggestion, charging that it unjustly impinged on traditional religious control of the trusts and on the Tarif family's interests.

The court agreed that such an interim recommendation should only be valid if supported by all sides, and therefore issued the show-cause order.

Shfaram man killed pensioner over NIS 100 debt

DAVID RUDGE

A SHFARAM resident has confessed to killing Yeshayahu Zinner at the victim's workshop in the Haifa bayside district on Sunday, police said yesterday.

The suspect, Daoud Mohammed Kadiri, 31, was arrested yesterday and reportedly made his confession in front of police video cameras and reenacted the crime.

Haifa district police spokesman Supt. Shoshani Markovitch said Kadiri and Yehayahu had apparently argued over NIS 100 the suspect had owed the victim.

Zinner was found lying in a pool of blood in his welding shop in Kiryat Bialik's industrial zone on Sunday evening, apparently bludgeoned to death with a blunt instrument from his workshop.

Zinner was discovered by a colleague from a neighoring workshop, Ya'acov Buzaglo, who raised the alarm. Police and Magen David Adom paramedics tried to resuscitate Zinner but to no avail.

Bloodstained clothing, believed to belong to Kadiri, was found in Buzaglo's premises where the suspect reportedly worked occasionally.

Kadiri, who reportedly has a record of violence, was arrested in the Shfaram area and brought to the Haifa police headquarters for questioning.

Markovitch said the suspect had since admitted killing Zinner and would be brought before the Haifa Magistrate's Court for a remand hearing.

Haifa district police commander Ya'acov Borovsky praised the work of the homicide team and the police officers involved in solving the murder case – the fourth in the district in less then two months.

Suspects have been arrested in all four cases, including those of two homosexuals, Technion lecturer Yeshayhu Demner and psychologist Eliezer Levi, and all are due to be charged in connection with the murders.

Borovsky said the team of homicide detectives, Superintendent Jean Ajuwad, Chief Inspector Yitzhal Eliyahu, Inspector Jimmy Mansour and Staff Sgt. Majs. Shai Nimni, Coby Turgeman and Shlomo Hershcovits, had show exceptional professionalism and expertise in solving the murders – three of them in a short space of time.

Bill stiffens penalty for wiretapping

EVELYN GORDON

WIRETAPPERS will now face significantly stiffer penalties, according to a section of a bill approved by the Knesset Law Committee yesterday.

The government bill is being prepared for its second and third reading. Two private member's bills, by Silvan Shalom (Likud) and Labor MKs Eli Dayan and Avraham Burg, will be merged with it.

According to the section approved by the committee yesterday, anyone who listens to, commissions, or makes use of information obtained from an illegal wiretap will be liable to up to five years in prison. At present, the maximum sentence is three years.

In addition, the maximum sentence for installing a wiretapping device will be raised from one year to five.

Committee chairman Dedi Zucker (Meretz) suggested that the maximum sentence for commissioning an illegal wiretap be increased to seven years, in order to discourage this phenomenon. Since the committee rejected this idea, he plans to propose it as an amendment in the plenum.

Shalom, who had wanted a maximum sentence of seven years instead of five for all the relevant crimes, will also propose his version as an amendment.

The committee also decided that in addition to imposing a prison sentence, the courts will be able to deprive a private investigator convicted of illegal wiretapping of his license, for a period of up to seven years.

'Altalena' screened at Knesset

LIAT COLLINS

THE audience of mostly former Etzel members and passengers sat quietly yesterday through the Knesset screening of *Altalena*, a film which documents the fate of the ship blown up by the IDF near Tel Aviv a month after Independence, as it attempted to land arms for Etzel fighters.

But the audience did not refrain from heckling the speakers who addressed them after the film, in which a Palmachnik says the wounded were shot as they were carried ashore and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin says the soldiers opened fire when they heard Menachem Begin was on board.

Filmmaker Ilana Tzur, who described her work as "an example of the result of blind hatred," later said she does not believe David Ben-Gurion knew of Begin's presence on the ship when he gave the order to sink it.

"It's a painful chapter in our history," said Knesset Speaker Shevah Weiss. "But we can learn certain lessons about testing the limits of obedience to orders. I have seen that, in cases in which civil war is brewing, the leadership has to play the decisive role. Today, only the Knesset – the parliamentary body representing the people's will – has a mandate to decide. Whoever takes that away [by acting separately] only sows the seed of civil war."

Former Knesset speaker and Etzel fighter Dov Shilansky, who organized the screening, said "There is a dilemma: do you obey an order like that and then afterwards say you were ashamed of your part or do you refuse it and tell your grandchildren the reason you were sent to prison?"

Taking the argument one step further, Shilansky told the audience he would physically block soldiers from dismantling settlements. "But I would not lift a finger against a Jewish soldier. What could I tell my grandchildren?"

Arik Nehamkin, former agriculture minister and a commander of the operation against the ship, was booed when he said, "I would do it again today. In the army, one must obey orders." He had to wait for the heavy heckling to die down before warning, "Woe to us if we ever have a civil war. We must do everything possible to stop that happening."

Health Ministry told to relocate labs for sake of workers' health

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Civil Service Commission yesterday demanded that the Health Ministry quickly relocate the ministry's medical standards labs from Jerusalem's Russian Compound to safe premises.

The labs should be regarded "as if they have been hit by a bomb and need immediate evacuation," said senior commission official Zvika Weiner, who accused the ministry of delaying the move for a year.

A few months ago, cancer epidemiologist Prof. Baruch Modan presented a report to the ministry after investigating complaints that a "large number" of lab staffers had contracted breast and ovarian cancer from exposure to dangerous chemicals in unventilated rooms.

Modan said the number of cases among present and past staffers represented a risk higher than that in the general population, but not significantly higher than in women of their age group.

He recommended that a national survey of lab workers be carried out to find out whether their cancer history was higher or lower than those in the Russian Compound facility.

The ministry said a special allocation was made to conduct the study, but the Histadrut "had not done its part" to launch such a survey. A year ago, the ministry told the three-dozen women staffers that their workday would be reduced from seven to five hours – at least until improved ventilation systems were installed in the old building.

Lab workers have now been instructed by the commission to resume their seven-hour workday, starting January 15. Biochemist and microbiologist union chief Asher Goldschlager said he would tell the lab workers to refuse.

Health Ministry spokeswoman Yifat Ben-Hai said last night that moving the labs to another location at this point is "unrealistic" and added that if the commission gave the ministry another three months to install a ventilation system the workers would then be able safely to put in a full day's work.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man threatens to sell wife's son

A Haifa man who threatened to sell his wife's son to tourists was remanded yesterday for two days by the Haifa Magistrate's Court. Police said the man, 48, called his wife from Eilat a few months ago and said he would sell her nine-year-old son from her first marriage if she did not give him NIS 200,000. *Itim*

Extortion suspected in Acre market

Three suspects have been remanded for one day each on suspicion of extorting protection money from more than 100 merchants in the Acre market. Police told the Acre Magistrate's Court the suspects last week extorted NIS 5 from every stand after threatening to harm anyone who did not pay. *Itim*

Soldier held on drug, disciplinary charges

Staff-Sergeant G., accused of drug possession and violating military discipline by proposing to blow up Arabs, yesterday was remanded till the end of proceedings.

G., 23, an instructor at the IDF anti-terrorism school, allegedly proposed attacking Arab laborers to two Druvdevan undercover unit officers. One of them informed the Military Police, who searched G.'s home and found 1.7 grams of hashish, but no explosives. G. told the court he had only been joking.

Worker killed at building site

Michael Yehuda, 51, of Ramle, was killed yesterday at a building site in Lod, when the arm of a crane lifting cinder blocks disengaged from the crane and fell on him from a height of nearly three stories. He was killed on the spot.Police detained the manager of the building site, the foreman, and the crane operator for questioning. Yehuda, father of five, was hired as a storage worker at the beginning of the week. *Itim*

Gordon auction tops $1.4m.

Monday evening's sales at the 35th auction of Tel Aviv's Gordon Gallery totaled $1.42m, with 75 percent of the 424 items being sold, most of them around their median estimates. A notable exception was Moshe Mokady's "Sickle Moon with Blue Horse," which went for $123,000, more than double its estimate, an auction record for the late Tel Aviv artist.

Mordecai Ardon's "Spring in Jerusalem" brought an expected $70,000 while Moshe Castel's early "Woman in Front of a Mirror" achieved a hoped-for $46,000. *Meir Ronnen*

Former Netanya court official gets community service for fraud

RAINE MARCUS

HAI Badash, the former administrator of Netanya Magistrate's Court criminal department was sentenced by the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday to six months' imprisonment for fraud and breach of trust.

But Judge Efraim Shalev converted the jail sentence to community service, and imposed an additional two years' suspended sentence and a NIS 20,000 fine on the 49-year old Badash.

Badash, who was in charge of the court orders to freeze assets of debtors, was entitled to receive money if debtors were not in when he visited their homes in an attempt to collect. He was also entitled to traveling expenses.

Between 1983 and 1989, Badash ostensibly executed thousands of such orders in the Triangle area. But in about 50% of the cases, he did not even visit the debtors. He simply filled in the relevant forms and received sums of money accordingly.

In his defense, Badash argued that he was not familiar with the rules regarding such court orders and was unaware that he had operated illegally.

But Shalev rejected his arguments and said Badash had actually taken on the job of executing the court orders himself, because he stood to earn a considerable amount of money in addition to his regular salary.

Knesset votes for probe of missing Yemenite children

LIAT COLLINS

THE bill calling for a state commission inquiry into the disappearance of Yemenite children in the 1950s unanimously passed its first reading in the Knesset last night.

The bill was based on private member's bills submitted by MKs Yehoshua Matza (Likud), Eliezer Zandberg (Tsomet), David Mena (Likud) and Avigdor Kahalani (Labor).

"Despite the work of the Shalgi Commission which filed its report in November, there are still real doubts about the fate of these children in the minds of the Yemenite community. The stories grow in proportion as they a passed on from parents to siblings to grandchi'dren," Matza said. Kahalani said the state inquiry was necessary to provide a sympathetic ear to listen to the mothers who still don't know where their children are buried or what happened to them.

"It's a question of feelings," said Zandberg. "If there is not a state commission we will find ourselves sitting on a [social] time bomb," he said.



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Russia claims troop advancement in Grozny battles

GROZNY, Russia (Reuter) – Chechen rebels battled Russian troops in the center of Grozny yesterday on streets lined with gutted buildings, burnt-out tanks and cars and dozens of corpses.

Russian government statements said the Kremlin's troops had gained ground three days after a tank-led Russian advance into the city to oust separatist President Dzhokhar Dudayev.

But videotape obtained by Reuters showed Chechen fighters moving unimpeded through city-center districts yesterday.

Some opened fire on Russian troops from behind trees or kiosks. Others, clutching their weapons, advanced warily along streets with downed trolley-bus lines and adjacent buildings blackened and pulverized by three weeks of Russian air raids.

Smoke was seen rising from near Dudayev's concrete palace.

Dudayev's whereabouts were unknown. In a television appearance on Monday, he called for fresh talks to end the Russian push on Grozny and suggested that Russian soldiers held prisoner could otherwise be killed.

In a letter offering talks to Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, Dudayev said the final push into Grozny had been a "catastrophe for the attackers and a tragedy for the defenders."

Interfax news agency said its correspondent in Grozny had reported that rebels were still keeping Russian troops well away from the palace.



Russian women lie down during a protest in Moscow yesterday against government intervention in Chechnya. (AP)

Russian authorities have periodically said since the advance began their troops had secured control of the building.

Interfax said the main theater of fighting was near the railway station, 1.5 kilometers west of the palace. A second pocket was five kilometers to the north.

"Alongside the presidential palace and on its approaches to the north and northwest are dozens of destroyed Russian armored vehicles," the Interfax report said. "All around lie the bodies of servicemen. Our correspondent counted about 100 dead Russian servicemen on the streets around the palace."



Chechen president Dzhokhar Dudayev makes a TV address from a secret location yesterday saying that he still wants to hold talks with Russia. (AP)

Russian government statements on Monday said Russian forces had "regrouped" – a euphemism for a retreat – after losing several dozen tanks as the advance ran into stiff resistance.

But they later said Russian troops had gained new ground and secured control of the main strategic positions in the city.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin sent thousands of troops into Chechnya on December 11, saying Dudayev's government was harboring criminals and vowing to crush his three-year-old drive to secure independence from Moscow.

The action has tended to galvanize the resistance of Chechens, many of whom were previously unsympathetic to Dudayev.

The television pictures showed dozens of wrecked cars and buses in city streets. Some were still ablaze.

Pictures from outside the city showed corpses drenched in blood while still at the wheel.

In Moscow, Russian members of parliament back from a three-week stay in Grozny urged Yeltsin to halt the advance and resume talks with Chechen leaders.

"Our soldiers of 18 and 19 are lying in the streets in their hundreds, uncollected three days after being killed," said Viktor Korochkin of parliament's upper chamber.

"The Chechens even proposed a truce for several hours to collect the bodies. They buried their own dead within a day."

The deputies said about 100 young and terrified Russian servicemen were holed up in a basement beneath the presidential palace.

UN presses Bosnian truce, fighting goes on

SARAJEVO (Reuter) – The United Nations pressed ahead with efforts to cement the latest Bosnian cease-fire yesterday, but fighting was reported in the northwest of the country where rebel elements have not signed the truce accord.

The United Nations blamed renegade Moslem forces opposed to the Sarajevo government for the clashes in the Bihac enclave.

The UN said the four-month cease-fire which came into effect on New Year's day could be followed by a meeting this week, possibly in Bonn, of officials from the Contact Group on Bosnia – the United States, Russia, Britain, Germany and France.

Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, the UN commander in Bosnia, was due to conduct initial meetings of joint commissions set up to implement the cessation of hostilities pact, the UN said.

Rose went to the central town of Gornji Vakuf and was expected to go on to the northern city of Tuzla to discuss details of the cease-fire between the Moslem-led Bosnian government, their Croat allies, and rebel Serbs.

Sarajevo residents got a boost yesterday when the airport reopened and tram services halted by Serb snipers resumed.

The airport, the main aid gateway for Sarajevo's 380,000 residents, had been closed on Saturday after a UN cargo aircraft skidded into a mudbank after landing in snowy weather.

UN officials sought to ensure that the latest cease-fire did not collapse in the same way as others before it.

Joint commissions were also due to convene in the Bihac area and in the eastern enclave of Gorazde. The Serbs have promised to attend all the meetings, said UN spokesman Alexander Ivanko.

Sri Lanka, Tamil rebels ready for cease-fire

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (Reuter) – The Sri Lankan government and Tamil separatist rebels agreed at peace talks yesterday to cease hostilities as a prelude to an end to their 12-year war, government negotiators said.

"There has been agreement on a cessation of hostilities leading to a cease-fire. We now need President [Chandrika Bandaranaike] Kumaratunga's approval and her signature on when it should be operative," Kusumsiri Balapatabendi, secretary to the president, told reporters.

Balapatabendi, who led a government negotiating team for yesterday's peace talks with the rebels in their northern stronghold of Jaffna, said the rebels released four policemen held since June 1990 and also discussed a 40-billion rupee ($816 million) rehabilitation plan for the north.

He said the talks were held for more than seven hours with a Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam team led by Tamil Chelvam, head of the group's political section.

The Tigers have been fighting since July 1983 for an independent homeland for the 2.5 million Tamil minority community. The conflict has cost more than 30,000 lives and destroyed property worth millions of dollars.

Balapatabendi said the cessation of hostilities was expected to come into force before Pope John Paul's two-day visit to Sri Lanka on January 20.

Other officials said the cessation – which means that both sides will refrain from hostile acts as a prelude to a cease-fire – was likely to be effective next week.

Balapatabendi described the talks as "very cordial and friendly. We are more optimistic than the last time."

UK Embassy receives Algerian threat letter

LONDON (Reuter) – Britain has received a letter, apparently from Moslem fundamentalists, telling the government it must close its embassy in Algeria by January 7 or Britons will be killed in cold blood.

A Foreign Office spokesman said yesterday that the letter, written in German, had been received by the embassy in Berne in the last few days. Similar messages appeared to have been sent to other Western countries with interests in Algeria.

In Bonn, *Stern* magaziine said Islamic militants in Algeria had sent letters to the German and other Western embassies in Algiers giving staff a deadline to leave the country by January 7.

A German Foreign Ministry spokeswoman declined to confirm or deny the report in the weekly *Stern*, which said the ultimatum to Bonn's embassy came in a letter from Moslem fundamentalists written in German.

Sources said the statement, datelined Lyon, France, on December 24, came from the Armed Islamic Group.

Report: Teenage hacker taps into US defense data

LONDON (Reuter) – A British teenager allegedly hacked into sensitive US government computers and was able to monitor secret communications over the North Korean nuclear crisis last spring, the *Independent* newspaper reported yesterday.

The boy tapped into several defense computers for seven months in what US officials conceded was one of the most serious breaches of computer security in recent years, the paper said.

The 16-year-old, after reading the messages, put them on a bulletin board on the Internet, an international computer network accessible to 35 million users.

A British hacker who read the messages told the *Independent* they contained information about firing sites in North Korea and field intelligence.

"He kept detailed logs of communication traffic. He really couldn't believe his luck. The Americans thought he was a spy but he told them he was just doing it for fun," the hacker told the *Independent*.

The boy, nicknamed "Datastream" by other Internet users, was finally caught by special US investigators because he left his terminal on-line to a US defense computer overnight.

British police arrested the boy in July and prosecutors are expected to decide whether he can be charged, the *Independent* said.

In a statement to the paper, the US Air Force Office of Special Investigations acknowledged the hacker could have accessed and read the Korean files.



John C. Salvi III answers a judge's questions during an arraignment hearing in Norfolk, Virginia yesterday. Salvi, 22, is charged with killing two abortion clinic receptionists in Brookline, Massachusetts on Friday as well as wounding five other people, and then spraying more than 20 shots the next day into a Norfolk clinic. No one was injured in the Norfolk attack. He was ordered held without bond. (AP)

'US Gulf war veterans suing German firms'

BONN (Reuter) – Around 2,000 US Gulf war veterans are suing prominent German companies which they allege helped Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein build up a poison gas arsenal, a German magazine reported yesterday.

They have filed a civil suit claiming $1 billion in damages for alleged exposure to chemical weapons which they say left them with "Gulf war syndrome," characterized by chronic fatigue, painful limbs, headaches, loss of balance, rashes and diarrhoea, *Stern* magazine said.

It released the story ahead of publication on tomorrow.

The suit alleges 20 defendants, including German companies Thyssen AG, Preussag AG, Degussa AG, Sigma GmbH and Heberger Bau, sold Iraq "substances and equipment" which it used to create chemical weapons.

A Degussa spokesman confirmed the company had been served papers seeking at least $50,000 in damages. He told Reuters the allegations were groundless and the company was confident the case would not succeed.

Preussag said in a statement said the allegations were without substance and that the firm saw no basis for a civil suit in the United States.

US-UK had 1964 plan to invade Jordan

DAVID MILLWARD

LONDON

SECRET plans for a joint Anglo-American invasion of Jordan have been disclosed in British government papers declassified this week after 30 years.

The 19-page study drawn up in 1964 for the United States and British Joint Chiefs of Staff shows how both countries were considering confronting Israel or any of Jordan's Arab neighbors if they overran King Hussein's nation.

They were also prepared to intervene if King Hussein was assassinated or abdicated and was replaced by a regime that posed a major threat to peace and security in the Middle East.

Contingency plans were also prepared to invade Kuwait if the country faced attack by Iraq or the Amir was under threat.

An invasion of Jordan was one of a series of options that were considered by defense chiefs, who also drew up proposals for a "token show of force" to deter other countries from meddling in Jordan's affairs.

Britain and America identified the survival of King Hussein as a vital ingredient to stability in the Middle East.

London and Washington were also determined to preserve a regime in Amman that kept the country free from "chaos or Soviet intervention."

The main fear disclosed by the paper, presented to defense chiefs, was that Jordan would be invaded by another Arab country, probably Egypt, which had backed King Hussein's opponents since an attempted coup in Jordan seven years earlier.

The Daily Telegraph



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Bush ready to visit Lebanon

SHMUEL SEGEV
TORONTO

FORMER US president George Bush will visit Lebanon immediately after the State Department lifts its travel ban on American citizens visiting Beirut.

Bush made his plans known in a telephone conversation with Issam Fares, a wealthy American of Lebanese descent and a generous donor to the Republican Party and various universities and research centers.

In October, Fares financed a symposium organized by Boston's Tufts University which was devoted to the subject of Lebanon and its future. Bush was the keynote speaker at the closing session.

Bush said that by accepting an invitation from Lebanese President Elias Harawi, he wanted to send a clear message that Lebanon is safe for travel and that the US is committed to Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Washington will decide next month whether to lift the travel ban. A high-level security delegation from Lebanon will visit Washington this month to discuss the security problems of Beirut's airport.

Hizbullah is reported to be strongly opposed to the trip, fearing its activities against the Israeli security zone could be seriously curtailed.

Jemayel: Lebanon will return to democracy

JACOB DALLAL
PARIS

THE failure of Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri to push his resignation past his country's "protector" Hafez Assad last month came as no surprise to former president Amin Jemayel.

Jemayel sees Hariri's trip to Damascus to get orders from Assad as a farce and a metaphor for Lebanon's situation: Nothing can be done without Syrian approval. A supposedly elected prime minister cannot even quit.

"It is completely a puppet government," says Jemayel, who now lives in Paris.

"Don't think or dream there is a single decision that can be taken. The Lebanese margin for maneuver is zero."

Even if Hariri managed to quit for good, "Assad is able to appoint a new government overnight. Or in a few minutes."

Jemayel should know. As president from 1982-88, he had to walk the same tightrope now stretched before Hariri. It was during his tenure that the Syrians moved rapidly to fill the military and political vacuum created by the departure of the PLO and Israel's withdrawal of its forces. Assad moved in and tightened his grip.

Critics have slammed Jemayel because it was his duty to resist the takeover. He says there was little he could do, that he tried to do his best under impossible circumstances.

When Jemayel's term ended, Lebanon went into free fall, and Syria became the de-facto occupier. De facto became de jure in 1991, when Lebanon meekly signed a treaty of "brotherhood, cooperation and coordination" as the "joint" accord termed it. The treaty linked the countries in all spheres – diplomatic, military and economic – a shotgun wedding of a helpless bride to a dominant suitor.

Today, after 20 years of civil war, it's quiet in Lebanon, there is hope for foreign investment, drawing boards are covered with plans to rebuild Beirut. But still there is the hovering shadow of Syrian control, backed by the presence of 40,000 troops.

Jemayel says his country will return to pre-civil-war democracy and a Lebanon free of all foreign forces. The Lebanese already reject the idea of Syrian control, he says.

"You cannot impose on the Lebanese people a a permanent state of slavery, of dependence. Contrary to what is spread outside, they are not happy and they reject the system imposed on them.

"There is a belief in the world that because there is no fighting, because there is a minimum of security, that there is peace. It's not true. It is not peace ... it's a real occupation, tough security imposed by a strong dictatorship."

Most Lebanese are extremely poor and many households lack basic utilities. "The economic situation is a catastrophe. Every day there are strikes and demonstrations against the government," says Jemayel.

"The people are frustrated. There is a word spreading across the country – *ahbart* – it means exasperation. It is everywhere on the tongue of every Lebanese citizen.

Jemayel admits that Syria's long-term goal, its "ancient ambition," is the annexation of Lebanon into a Greater Syria. "To this day they [Damascus] never recognized our independence. "There have been many Syrian statements saying Lebanese and Syrians are one people, that it is natural for Lebanon to return to a Syrian entity. So it's no secret."

Jemayel returned to Lebanon in 1992, but after the government-controlled Damascus newspaper *Tishreen* ran a front-page editorial denouncing his return, the Lebanese Army assumed "responsibility" for his protection, arrested his bodyguards and warned him his safety could not be guaranteed. He returned to Paris.

From exile, Jemayel is calling for international intervention and wants the UN to set up a representative committee from Lebanon to negotiate the exit of foreign troops and act as a caretaker [government] until democratic elections can be held.

The committee would also be responsible for peace talks with Israel. Jemayel says, "It's a mistake for Israel to accept that Syria conducts talks on behalf of Lebanon. It would be unfair and unreasonable to sign an agreement with a delegation that does not represent the people.

"The Israeli approach is a pragmatic one – they feel a need to appease the Syrians in order to reach an accord with them. Both Israel and the US are ignoring the Lebanese track – it is being used as an instrument for the Syrian-Israel track."

Jemayel says only a cold peace can result in this situation, while an authentic Lebanese team would make peace with warm relations. He says he has made his point in meetings with high-level Israeli officials.

The irony is that when Jemayel was president, he caved in under intense pressure from Syria and its Moslem backers in Lebanon to tear up the 1983 Lebanon-Israel agreement, which looked very much like a peace treaty.



Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdel-Meguid answers reporters' questions upon arriving at Kuwait International Airport on Monday. Abdel-Meguid's visit to Kuwait is aimed at closing Arab ranks that were damaged by Iraq's 1990 invasion of the country. (AP)

Source of Bahrain violence unclear

ALY MAHMOUD
MANAMA

TINY Bahrain, a normally placid island state often called the Switzerland of the Gulf, exploded into rioting last month.

A struggle for democracy? Or a foreign-inspired plot against the government? After two weeks of violence, there were sharply different accounts of what caused the clashes, in which at least one person was killed.

Bahrain is a major regional financial and trade center in the Gulf, a region that holds two-thirds of the world's oil reserves. It also provides the main shore facilities for US warships deployed in the area.

Opposition leaders from their exile bases insist the rioting was an indigenous all-Bahrain movement to push for "democracy," an end to human rights abuses and better economic conditions.

In fax messages to merchants, embassies, wire-service offices and lawyers, they vowed the movement would not abate until the government gave in.

Bahrain indirectly pointed a finger of suspicion at Iran for abetting violence in this island state of half a million people by summoning its ambassador back from Teheran for consultations. But it made no direct public accusations.

However, Ahmed Jarallah, editor of Kuwait's daily *Al-Siyassah*, who is close to the Bahraini leadership, reported the summons was to protest Iran's meddling in the country's domestic affairs.

The unrest was the most serious since 1981, when 50 to 60 people, mainly Shi'ite Moslems, were arrested after authorities uncovered a plot to topple the government that officials blamed on the Shi'ite fundamentalist government of Iran.

Shi'ites comprise an estimated 55 percent of the population of Bahrain and predominate on the jobless rolls.

For two weeks, coinciding with the annual summit of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council that the emirate hosted, scattered groups of stone-throwing youths battled with riot police in mainly Shi'ite neighborhoods.

The final communique from the summit denounced "fundamentalism and excesses that lead to violence and terrorism under whatever guise and whatever the motive or reason."

The communique and the violence underscored the threat pro-Western Gulf leaders perceive from extremism and Islamic fundamentalism.

Among the six leaders were King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Sultan Qaboos of Oman. Earlier this year, both monarchies arrested hundreds of fundamentalist activists from Islam's mainstream Sunni sect for agitating for political reforms in these states.

Qaboos has warned of the tide of Islamic extremism at the doorsteps of the oil-rich region, where stability is vital to continued economic development. With government coffers depleted because of shaky oil prices, these monarchies need stability to attract investment to help finance projects.

Algeria and Egypt also are grappling with Islamic insurrections, while other Arab states are cracking down on fundamentalist groups to head off similar crises.

Opposition groups claim as many as nine people were killed in the rioting and upward of 1,600 arrested in the riots, which pitted stone-throwing youths against police who responded with tear gas and baton charges.

The government says one policeman was killed and about a score of protesters were arrested.

Mohammed Abdullah, a spokesman for the London-based Bahrain Freedom Movement, said the unrest was "not fundamentalist, if fundamentalism means extremism and terrorism."

The exiled opposition groups say their main demands are for the restoration of an elected parliament and a reduction in the high unemployment rate.

The violence has also had religious overtones.

The Interior Ministry says the trouble dates to November 25, when young Shi'ites attacked men and women wearing shorts and sleeveless shirts during an annual marathon, in which foreigners also participated. Twelve people were arrested.

"This shameful nudity is a disgrace to Islamic Bahrain," complained a central-market porter, Khalil. "We gave them a good beating, to teach them to observe Islamic decorum."

The unrest swelled after the December 5 arrest of preacher Sheikh Ali Salman, who was alleged to be plotting to destabilize the state.

Salman, 29, also had been picked up briefly earlier this year for allegedly instigating young Shi'ites to demonstrate against unemployment, which stands at 15 percent of the indigenous labor force – not sky-high by world standards, but unprecedented here. (AP)

CIS is major market for Dubai

HILARY GUSH
DUBAI

ECONOMIC liberalization in the former Soviet Union has already brought a steady increase in the flow of Russian tourists to Dubai, but now business travelers are fast becoming a more familiar sight in the emirate.

"Last year over 250,000 visitors from the Commonwealth of Independent States flocked to Dubai and spent over $1 billion," said the director general of Dubai's Civil Aviation Department, Mohieddin Binhendi.

He said the 1994 figure was likely to be even higher.

"The Russian states are definitely one of the very important markets for us. There has been tremendous growth."

Dubai is the second largest emirate and commercial hub of seven in the United Arab Emirates. Last year a million tourists stayed in its 167 hotels.

Most Russian visitors to Dubai are shoppers who take advantage of the wide range of consumer goods available at competitive prices, thanks to a lively trading tradition and low import duties of only 4 percent.

Signs in Russian on downtown bazaar shop windows, enticing tourists inside, are common. Shops employ Russian sales assistants and Dubai markets are packed with CIS tourists at all times of the year.

Although electronics are probably the most popular buy among Russians, clothing, food and gold are big sellers.

Some tourists even take used furniture back on their return flights.

Many charter flights on the CIS-UAE routes offer generous baggage allowances of up to 40 kg per person and charge only mild penalties when baggage exceeds this allowance – a further incentive to visiting shoppers.

But George Moussa, general manager at Planet Travel, Tours and Cargo – the local agent for seven CIS airlines – said business travelers were increasingly becoming more important airline clients, making up around 25 percent of all passengers.

There are 55 CIS passenger flights into Dubai monthly.

Echoing Moussa's sentiments, the deputy chief executive at the Dubai government's Commerce and Tourism Promotion Board, Patrick Macdonald, said Russian businessmen were pouring in as the emirate's economic influence in the former Soviet Union expanded.

"Dubai has always been an important cog in the Middle East wheel, with companies having their regional headquarters here. But now the CIS and Africa are also being covered from here." (Reuter)

Iran continues to forge Sudan connection

SHMUEL SEGEV
TORONTO

SUDAN is becoming one of the most serious threats to secular stability in Egypt, North Africa and the sub-Sahara.

It also usefully diverts the spotlight from Iran by allowing Hizbullah, Hamas and Islamic Jihad to train and operate there.

According to *The New York Times*, Western intelligence and Arab diplomatic sources in New York have reported a secret gathering of Iranian and Sudanese intelligence officials in Khartoum.

In addition, Algerians who have been to Sudan for ideological training are now getting advanced terrorist training in Lebanon prior to returning to Algiers to rejoin the Islamic rebels at war with the military regime.

Diplomatic sources in North America believe Hizbullah bases in Lebanon's Bekaa have adopted the same role that the PLO had prior to the 1982 Israeli invasion that expelled them.

In charge of this subversion is Sheikh Hassan el-Turabi, an Islamic scholar who was educated in the West. He heads the Popular National Islamic Front and is secretary-general of Sudan's ruling party, the Popular Arab and Islamic Conference.

Turabi recently took over the chair of a "fundamentalist international" – a loose ideological hierarchy which studies options for subversion in various countries.

Among its board members is Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, the head of the terrorist Egyptian Jamaa Islamiyeh – now jailed in New York, awaiting trial for his role in the bombing of Manhattan's Twin Towers.

Other top officials include the Afghan Hezb-i-Islami party leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, Ahmed Zandani, a leading fundamentalist from Yemen, and Ali Belhaj, the most visible luminary among Algerian extremists.

Interestingly, no Iranian name appears on this list of fundamentalist leaders, but no one doubts it is well represented.

Turabi has made great efforts to project himself westwards as the acceptable Islamic face of moderation and reason. Nonetheless, his relations with Iran remain very close.

This began soon after the military coup in Khartoum in June 1989, which brought General Omar Bashir to the presidential palace with Turabi pulling the strings behind the scenes.

Cooperation with Iran was considered essential to counter Egyptian pressure but in March 1992 this was transformed into a "holy alliance" which was signed by visiting Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani.

THE CLOSEST Sudanese-Iranian cooperation is indeed in this field of terrorism and subversion.

There are now in Khartoum several hundred Iranian Revolutionary Guards training Islamic rebels from Arab and African countries.

Iran recently granted Sudan a loan-guarantee to help finance an arms-deal with China. Part of the delivery has already reached Sudan as part of preparations for the spring offensive against the Christian and animist rebels in southern Sudan.

Apart from this, however, direct Iranian financing of Sudan is more limited than is generally believed. Contradicting previous reports, Western intelligence sources estimate that total Iranian cash aid to Sudan does not exceed $17 million.

To this must be added a Sudanese debt of $150m., dating back to the shah's days, which Rafsanjani has now written off.

Iran also covers the costs of the hundreds of Pasdarans (revolutionary guards) stationed in Khartoum, and it pays for Sudanese students being trained in Iran's religious schools, mostly in Teheran, Qom and Mashhad.

To have subversive activity conducted from Khartoum is a great convenience for both Iran and Sudan. Iran retains deniability, and Sudan is projected as a "regional power," whose interests must be taken into account not only by its powerful neighbor Egypt, but also by the West.

This has made Sudan an important target for the intelligence community. Intimate cooperation between the secret services of France, Britain, Egypt, Israel and the US led to the tracking of the elusive Carlos the Jackal to Khartoum, where he was held and then handed over to France.

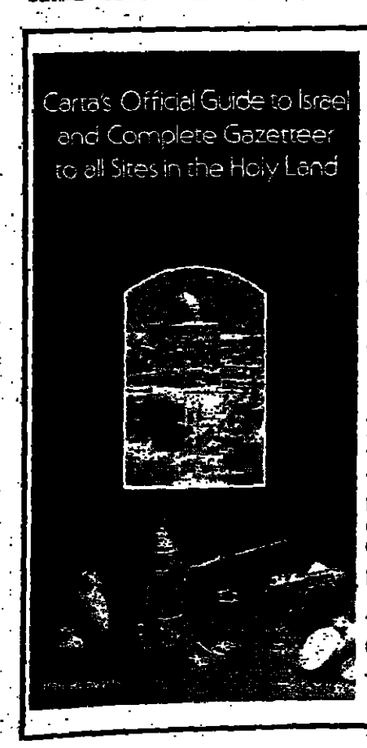
Yet Western intelligence sources say much more needs to be done to penetrate Khartoum if the dangerous tide of Islamic terrorism is to be contained.

AP reports: In November, Sudan set up a parliamentary committee to investigate charges of human rights abuses. So far, the committee maintains, only a few of the complaints it has gotten are actually about human rights.

Ahmed Zein el-Abedeen, head of the committee, told the newspaper *al-Inkaz al-Watany* the panel had received 350 complaints. He said 12 had been resolved, including the release of four people from jail, and 14 were being investigated. The rest were only complaints about problems with bureaucracy, he said.

That has not satisfied Western critics, who have accused Sudan of encouraging Islamic extremists in Egypt, Algeria and elsewhere.

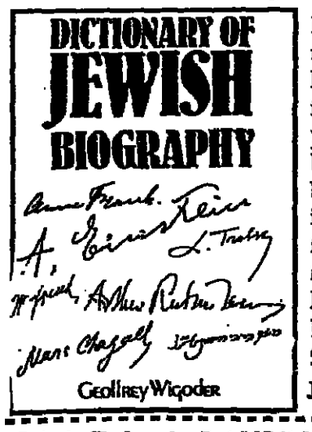
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Disaster in the Caucasus

RUSSIA'S intervention in Chechnya has become the disaster which President Boris Yeltsin assured the world would not happen. Already the international community is gearing up for the first new humanitarian crisis of the year as the refugee flood swells to 100,000 people. As the ferocious fighting for the capital Grozny continues to rage, it is obvious the situation is going to get far worse.

Moscow seriously underestimated the will of the Chechens to fight. The Russians assumed that the political divisions that have racked the province since Dzhokhar Dudayev declared himself sole ruler in 1993 would ensure the swift capitulation of the secessionists. In fact, the Chechens have demonstrated that their hatred of Russian domination far outstrips any internal strife among them and their relentless battle underscores once again the legendary fighting spirit of Caucasian tribes.

The fight for Chechnya is beginning to have serious repercussions in Moscow with long-dormant rumors of coup plots rampant once again. This military operation could become the final disaster of Yeltsin's career – just over a year after he was forced to order in the troops to suppress his own rebellious parliament in Moscow. Yegor Gaidar, a former staunch liberal ally of Yeltsin has warned that the grave errors in Chechnya "'may result in the establishment of an authoritarian regime."

Serious questions have already been raised about Yeltsin's health, his drinking, and his frequent disappearances in the midst of crises. The horrific television pictures of corpses littering the streets of Grozny and of the piecemeal destruction of the city are rekindling uncomfortable memories in the West of the suppression of Budapest and Prague by Soviet tanks. Yeltsin's own advisers are admitting the war has weakened his political position, public opinion ratings put him at an all-time low.

The debacle in Chechnya is being made worse not by tough discipline in the Russian army, but by its obvious demoralization. In purely military terms, the campaign has been a mess, badly planned and executed with incompetence. Air support has failed to hit significant targets, the foot soldiers have been left to face the determined resistance of a people solidly united and fiercely angry about the civilian casualties and destruction of the capital.

Those who backed Yeltsin's legal right to maintain the Russian Federation and halt the secession are becoming increasingly uncomfortable with the military mess he has unleashed. His most loyal friend, Germany's Helmut Kohl, has become notably defensive about his continuing support for the Chechnya operation in the face of mounting anger among Germans. The government openly accused Russia of violating human rights by using an unwarranted amount of force.

The European Union has suggested that Russia should ask the 53-nation Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to mediate a peaceful solution to the Chechnya conflict, as it is doing in Armenia. The offer is genuine, but undoubtedly comes too late. Since the West declared Chechnya an internal issue, it is quite simply powerless in the conflict. Verbal displays of might are therefore pointless.

Israeli Jerusalem Arabs

NOTHING refuted Cold War Soviet propaganda more persuasively than popular conduct under the Communist regime. Subjected to daily brainwashing about the horrors of life in the West, Soviet citizens nevertheless "voted with their feet," risking their lives to leave the "workers' paradise."

The same kind of voting seems to be going on among the Arab residents of Jerusalem. For 27 years, ever since Jerusalem became a united city, they have had the prerogative of becoming Israeli citizens. Throughout these years, Israel pleaded with them to become Israelis, to little avail. Though the city's Arab population more than doubled during this period, the vast majority of Arabs preferred to stay Jordanian citizens living in Israel as permanent residents.

They carry an Israeli identity card – which enables them to receive such benefits as national insurance payments – and they can vote for the municipal government. But they cannot vote for the Knesset.

But now, following the signing of the agreement with the PLO, thousands – some say the numbers have reached more than 10,000 – are applying for Israeli citizenship. The siege on the interior ministry offices which handle these applications is such that new offices may have to be opened.

This is happening after the Israeli government has granted Jerusalem Arabs what is presumably one of their national aspirations: the privilege of voting for the Council of the Palestinian Authority when it takes over in Judea and Samaria. For the first time in history, these Palestinian Arabs would have the privilege of voting for their own government.

The PLO expected that, given this privilege, even the few who in the past had acquired Israeli citizenship would relinquish it for Palestinian citizenship. Instead, the opposite has happened. Given the choice between identifying with the Palestinian state and becoming Israeli citizens, thousands have chosen the latter.

The Palestinian leadership is, of course, thoroughly unhappy about this development. The PLO-appointed mufti of Jerusalem devoted last Friday's sermon to condemning the phenomenon. "Those who apply for Israeli citizenship," he said, "violate Islamic law and help Israel Judaize Jerusalem."

Indeed, in the battle for Jerusalem this trend can be devastating to Arab claims. An Arab population with a large percentage of Israeli citizens can hardly demand to belong to another sovereignty. If anything, the wish of so many Arabs to be Israelis should make the world wonder if forcing the Palestinians to accept PLO-Hamas rule is not cruel and unusual punishment.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ASHAMED

Sir, – There are many vital lessons to be learned from what happened to Shaul Meiri in Ramallah on December 14, but the most important lesson of all is that it is a lie when our government tells us that we can do nothing about the violence being perpetrated against us. The dastardly mob that had its way for 10 minutes ran away the minute our soldiers appeared.

The problem is not that we can do nothing about the intifada and about terrorism; the problem is that our leadership does not want to do anything about it. I personally am at a loss to explain this.

I can only hope that now that God in his boundless mercy has delivered Mr. Meiri from one lynch, the IDF will not lynch him. I agree that we should be ashamed, but not of Mr. Meiri. We should be ashamed of the IDF and of our governments, Likud as well as Labor.

DAVID HEIMOWITZ
Tel Aviv.

JORDAN MAP

Sir, – During a recent visit to Jordan, we saw that all area maps, including one published by the Jordan Geographical Society, describe the land (Israel) lying to the west of the River Jordan as Palestine.

In this new dawn of peace between Jordan and Israel, it would behoove the Jordanian authorities to have the existence of Israel recognized in all printed matter. If Jordan's officialdom continues to view Israel as Palestine, it cannot protest the historical fact that Jordan is Palestine too.

LEILA CUMBER
Tel Aviv (London).

SELF-HELP

Sir, – Your report on the African National Congress conference in Bloemfontein, as well as the editorial of December 19, "Examining the roots," really impressed me as by far the best article on South Africa since I came here in September.

I am one of the black South Africans who do not see the concept of the "quick fix" as a remedy for our problems, from social to economic. I have been to some African states and have experienced the results of quick fixing and, in most cases, they have been horrible. Even though I understand the roots of the ills of our country and the harsh realities of the oppression we suffered, I believe that, with the government in our own hands, the ball has been thrown in our court to develop and shape our own lives, using the best of the infrastructure our country has.

I am presently in Kibbutz Eilon, doing a kibbutz study with material from its Institute of Study and Research and the Cooperative Idea – University of Haifa. I am doing so at my own initiative without being sponsored in the hope of incorporating the ideas in a simplified form for the benefit of my country and the creation of jobs in the form of self-help projects.

SILIKI MABINA
Kibbutz Eilon.

TERRIFIC

Sir, – I note with pleasure that Shmuel Katz has resumed writing for your paper. His article of December 23 on Arafat's confidence trick is terrific.

STUART GRANT
Tel Aviv.

IMPUDENCE

Sir, – I found Ariel Sharon's commentary of December 16 to be remarkable. His claim that the IDF "and their excellent commanders have become tools in the hands of cynical politicians" in the "clandestine war" in southern Lebanon reveals a faceless impudence unbecoming a public figure.

I recommend that Sharon study Israeli history circa 1982. Surely Sharon has not forgotten how the interference of cynical politicians in that Lebanese war led to the deaths of hundreds of IDF soldiers and thousands of Lebanese civilians. Surely Sharon does not need to be reminded which party was then in power and who was then defense minister.

Kfar Sava. *D. NEHALIM*

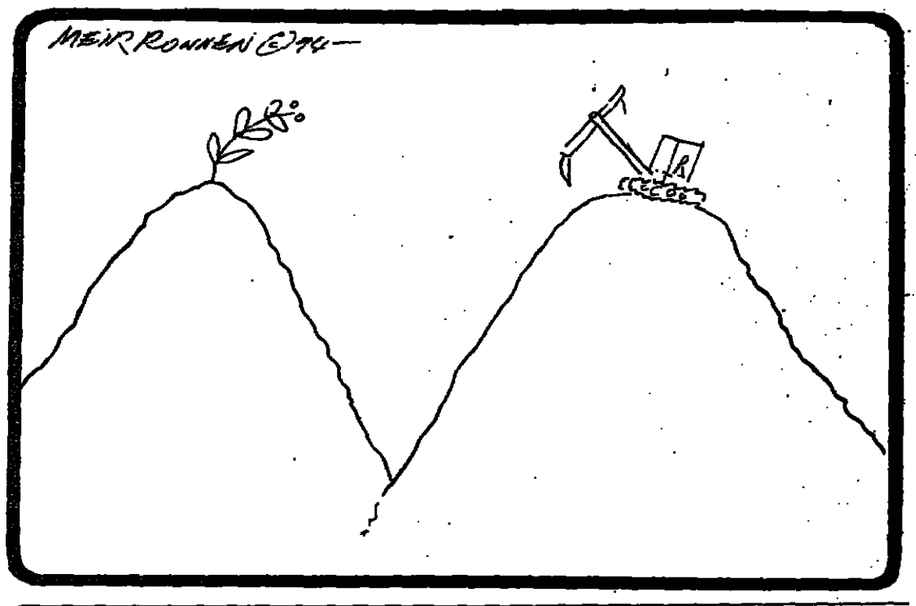
SMOKING IN SCHOOL

Sir, – I read in your issue of December 21 that Minister of Education Amnon Rubinstein is considering smoking rooms in high schools, and I was horrified. Instead of smoking rooms, I suggest a massive anti-smoking campaign and restrictions on smoking on school campuses for everyone.

Having just returned from the US, I must say that the one thing that impressed me there was that no one is allowed to smoke on school grounds, from the principal to the youngest student. I do not think that teachers smoking at school set a good example for our children.

I suggest that the whole country start a no-smoking campaign. It would have a great effect, not only on the health of our citizens, but on the financial health of Kupat Holim.

Karmiel. *JUDY PUSTILNIK*



A two-headed policy

JON SIMONS

THE resistance of the people of El-Khader to the building of a new settlement on the disputed hill near Efrat is a turning point in the peace process.

Grassroots Palestinians are drawing a red line which limits the extent to which Palestinian negotiators can compromise fundamental Palestinian interests.

The message is clear: dispossession has gone far enough. From now on every expropriation of land or Israeli building project in the territories will be met by popular resistance.

The principle of *tsumud*, of remaining tied to the land, will now be enacted literally by Palestinians who will have to be forcibly removed or prevented from reaching their land.

Yasser Arafat previously lost much support because of the humiliating conditions of the Cairo Accords, and in particular the continuing detention of Palestinian prisoners; but El-Khader is now a red line for the last remnants of his credibility.

It could also have been a turning point for the government, which was called on to make a principled decision: peace or settlements.

Would the government continue to sponsor settlement in the territories, which might otherwise be transferred to Palestinian governance at the next stage of negotiations, or would it demonstrate a genuine commitment to finding a solution to the conflict with the Palestinians?

Would it continue to establish facts on the ground under the protection of military force (in order to prejudice the possible parameters of peace talks), or would it recognize that the peaceful outcome of these talks requires the suspension of the policies of occupation?

> The resistance at El-Khader is a turning point which can lead to better or worse

The absurd compromise which the government adopted, to cease building on one hill but allow it on another, shows that it is in a bind. Policymakers still believe that they can have peace and settlements.

IT IS becoming increasingly apparent that there are government plans for blocs of Jewish settlement that will come under Israeli rule in a final agreement.

These blocs include the Etzion Bloc (of which Efrat is a part), which is a component of the envisaged Greater Jerusalem.

These are less blocs of Jewish settlement than strategic territorial swathes which will leave little space for Palestinian self-rule, and will reduce these areas to isolated, Bantu-type states.

Under these circumstances, there is no chance of the development of a healthy Palestinian civil society and economy. The current dependence of Palestinians in the territories on the Israeli economy is to be inscribed for the future on the maps of Jewish settlement.

There is no reason for the government's decision other than this undeclared policy to continue settlement in large areas of the territories. It is not a compromise between the property rights of the settlers under Israeli law and the resistance to settlement, because settlement is to continue; and it makes little difference on which hill it happens.

It's not a compromise between the government's desire to pursue peace and its need to demonstrate that it will not bow to Palestinian pressure, because so far the government, for the most part, has dictated terms to the Palestinians.

If the government justifies its position on the grounds that the Cairo Accords stipulated that settlement would continue in certain areas, that merely emphasizes the imbalance of power inscribed in the agreement. If the initial and interim agreements do not guarantee that Palestinians will rule over more than their backyards under the final agreement, if they are camouflage beneath which the disinheritance of the Palestinians continues, then they are not agreements at all.

The resistance at El-Khader is a turning point which can lead to better or worse. If it is to be a positive turning point, then the government should abandon its monstrous two-headed policy and instead follow the line proposed by the Meretz ministers and take heed of the just claims of the Palestinians to halt all settlement in the territories.

The writer teaches political science at the Hebrew University.

Surrender to US pressure

ARIEH ZARITSKY

SOMETIMES ambassadors identify with the countries where they serve, at the expense of their own country's interests.

Yitzhak Rabin's reactions to American demands during his two periods as prime minister seem to indicate that his reliance on the US is the result of such an identification.

His attempts to gain sympathy and support by acceding to American demands in the face of Israel's real economic, security and political interests have already resulted in disastrous concessions. These may well make war inevitable, bringing Israel's very survival into question.

The freeze on Jewish settlements and investment in the territories, imposed by this government upon its inauguration, is part of the pattern.

All the Arab states bordering on Israel went to Madrid in 1991, despite the fact that Israeli interests in Judea and Samaria were undergoing enhanced development under Yitzhak Shamir's government.

It seemed as though "peace for peace" was a negotiable position.

Then, with the freeze of investment, Arab negotiators abandoned the Madrid framework – but this didn't cause Rabin to reverse his policy.

The continued freeze is not connected to its effects on the "peace process." Rather, it represents a capitulation to American pressure – despite its devastating influence on relations between Israel's left and right, and between religious and secular Jews, as well as on Rabin's electoral support.

This capitulation to the Americans and the rupture it is causing in the fabric of Israeli society, has dramatically weakened Israel and precluded for the foreseeable future the chances of a realistic solution to the conflict between Arabs and Jews.

The Rabin government's dangerous surrender to American pressure will be especially felt during the upcoming renewal of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Israel will be under strong pressure to sign the treaty, thus opening its nuclear deterrent potential to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

> This is especially dangerous with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty up for renewal

If Israel signs, its last-line deterrence against Arab aggression will be removed.

AMERICA'S own perceived interests in the Middle East are not the same as Israel's, as Prof. Ezra Sohar details in his recent book *Mistress in the Middle East*.

In it, Sohar describes the US administration's relationship to the Jews since the Balfour Declaration. The US, Sohar writes, consistently interfered with the establishment of Jewish autonomy in the Land of Israel.

One egregious example is the arms ban imposed on Israel (but not its adversaries) during the first 15 years of its existence. Fortunately, countries such as Czechoslovakia and France supported Israel's struggle for survival.

Israel has never placed its fate in the hands of others whose interests do not always coincide with ours. The Rabin government has shattered the consensus on this, making Israel's very existence subordinate to American interests.

Rabin's present concessions have gone beyond anything the electorate – and even the US administration – expected. It is to be feared that they represent only the beginning of a long string of concessions.

The writer is an executive member of the Association of Professors for a Strong Israel.

POSTSCRIPTS

A GIANT telescope mirror that will help untangle the secrets of the universe spent its early life tangling earthly traffic.

Cars and trucks were backed up for kilometers on a Pennsylvania interstate highway as the wide-load truck crept along both southbound lanes at little more than 16 kph. The load was so wide that planning the two-day move took two years.

The 24-ton, 8-meter-wide mirror, built by Corning Inc. in Canton, NY, was taken by barge down the St. Lawrence River, across Lake Ontario to Erie.

From Erie, it was trucked to Wampum, Pa., 64 km north of Pittsburgh, for three years of grinding and polishing in a converted underground limestone mine.

The mirror is so big and so delicate that even ambulances were prohibited from passing it.

So who's inferior?

DANIEL BAUM

THE reasons why Gustavo Perednik doesn't want his children to learn Arabic (*The Jerusalem Post*, December 4) border on outright racism.

The notion of any connection between race or "national ethos" and language structure is a dangerous one. The theories Perednik treats as the unadulterated truth are condemned by present-day linguists. Lacking any scientific basis, they are open to limitless abuse.

Languages may be shaped by their users.

The Athenians turned Greek into a wonderfully precise tool for expressing scientific and philosophical thought. For their classical literature, the Indians developed a carefully crafted and exquisitely perfected language abounding in synonyms and poetic allusions. So did the Arabs. The Romans developed classical Latin by filtering their everyday speech of elements they considered vulgar.

> There's no link between race and language structure

But these were all highly literary languages, for the use of a limited circle of intellectuals. They meant little to the common folk, and their structure reveals nothing of these peoples' "national ethos."

The grammar of a language has no bearing on the culture of the people who speak it.

If the "rigid and disciplined" Germans created their language in their own image, then the ancient English must have been just as disciplined, as their language was probably close enough to German to have allowed mutual comprehension.

And present-day English speakers must be far sloppier than their Anglo-Saxon forebears, as the English language has lost many of its grammatical forms, relying today more on word order to convey the relationship between elements of the sentence.

THE INDO-EUROPEAN language which has most preserved the forms of the reconstructed parent language was not written down at all until the 17th century. It has no classical tradition, and is not the intellectual property of a strutting master race. The language in question is Lithuanian.

If the abundance of grammatical forms is the mark of a "superior" language, then the opposite must also be true.

Languages without a huge number of suffixes and prefixes, like English – and more pointedly, Yiddish – must be "inferior," as must be the people who speak them.

Hebrew has also been defined as "primitive," because, in the eyes of certain 19th-century scholars, it had no way of forming a subordinate clause. But these scholars simply didn't realize how classical Hebrew subordinate clauses are formed.

The idea that certain concepts inherent in a "national ethos" are embodied in the structure, rather than the vocabulary, of a language is also highly problematical.

Perednik says that, in Hebrew, the word for life is plural, there is no word for "to possess," and you can't conjugate the verb "to be" in the present tense. This is somehow supposed to put us on a different moral plane from the Arabic-speaking barbarians.

However, all three statements are true for Arabic too. The last two are also true for Russian, Sanskrit and Homeric Greek, and for numerous other languages.

In English, the word "scissors" is always plural. What does that say about the English, I wonder?

Finally, Perednik asks whether the South Americans shouldn't perhaps be learning Quechua, or the Australians Aboriginal.

Is he advocating that Israel follow the South American or Australian example in treating Arabs?

If so, his understanding of the Hebrew word for "peace" is probably closer to "subjugation."

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post *staff.*

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

A Beduin version of 'Roots'

The saga of nomads who settled down just outside Jerusalem is the subject of a Beduin woman's novel, Bill Hutman reports



Halima Johar, flanked by two Jebel Mukaber residents: Most of the story comes from the tales I heard when I would sit and listen to my father and his friends speak. (Sarit Uziely)

NEARLY a century ago members of Halima Johar's Beduin tribe, the Arab el-Sawahrah, were desert sheepherders and smugglers.

Today, they are residents of one of Jerusalem's largest neighborhoods, Jebel Mukaber, and fully integrated into Palestinian society in the city.

Johar, a teacher and mother of three, recently decided to turn the story of this dramatic transformation of her tribe into an Arabic-language novel.

"I consider this a Beduin version of *Roots*," Johar said, sitting in the family's small living room in Jebel Mukaber, in southeast Jerusalem, with her young daughter at her knees.

Her husband, the well-known author Jamil Salhut, sat at her side and translated. Johar, 34, who comes from a family of writers, speaks little English or Hebrew.

"You know what I mean, Alex Haley's history of black Americans," she explained. Her novel, published in the summer, is titled *Jozor* – Arabic for "roots."

The novel, experts on Beduin society say, in many ways symbolizes the vast cultural and political changes the Beduin of the region have undergone.

The work is also seen as exemplifying the newfound liberation of the urban Beduin woman, in that it is she who has taken the initiative to record the oral history of her people.

"There has been a great boom in recent years of writings by Palestinians on Palestinian history and folklore, and Beduin writers are now following in that tradition," said Clinton Bailey, an authority on the Beduin.

The political implications of such writings are clear, Bailey added. They strengthen the claims of the Palestinian, and in this case the Beduin, to the land.

IN *JOZOR*, we see a large Beduin tribe of the Judean Desert slowly becoming drawn to the urban life of Jerusalem at the turn of the century.

People who had "lived off the land," roaming a territory that stretched from the environs of Jerusalem to the Dead Sea and the Jordan River, discover it is more profitable to live a sedentary life as traders.

But at first they are not totally integrated into Palestinian society, so the trade the Arab el-Sawahrah choose is smuggling. Cheap and untaxed goods from across the Jordan River are brought to Jerusalem for sale to merchants.

Hamdan, the novel's hero, sets out each night with a team of workers and mules through desert passes to the Jordan River, where he meets a Beduin trader from across the river.

Scouts on the lookout for British soldiers trying to stop the illegal trade set out ahead of the convoy, doubling back to tell Hamdan which passage is safest.

When Hamdan's convoy returns, Arab merchants from the Old City meet it at secret points outside the walls and out of sight of the British.

Johar points from her living-room window to the first home built in the village, on a ridge just below her home, in 1920.

More homes sprang up quickly as the Arab el-Sawahrah began to give up their nomadic life, settling in part on Jebel (Arabic for mountain) Mukaber.

The entire area where they began building their homes is known to this day by the tribe's name, Sawahrah. The area is split in half by the Jerusalem municipal boundary: Sawahrah el-Arabiah inside the city, and Sawahrah el-Sharkiyeh, in the administered territories.

The neighborhood is bordered on the west by the Jewish neighborhood of East Talpiot, on the south by Sur Bahir, the north by Abu Tor and Silwan, and the east by the desert.

THE LATE Avshalom Shmueli, a renowned expert on the Beduin, described the process of "sedentarization" – the movement from tents to homes – that the Arab el-Sawahrah underwent in the early 1900s.

"Sedentarization occurred earliest for the Beduin of the Jerusalem area, because of their proximity to a religious and political center," Shmueli wrote.

"The tribesmen were nomadic, lived in tents, and sheep raising was central to their economy. They ruled the roads and exploited this in several ways: robbing caravans, imposing road tolls ... renting out camels, mules and donkeys and offering transportation using their own caravans."

Today, as one drives into Jebel Mukaber from downtown Jerusalem, there is little indication of the village's past.

Children play in the paved streets where their great-grandparents once pitched tents and rode camels and mules.

Most of the elders who remember those days have died. But their memories of the era when their tribe made its first steps towards urban life are not forgotten, thanks to Johar.

About 15 years ago, Johar began recording the tales of the elders of the Arab el-Sawahrah tribe. Those tales became the basis of her novel.

"Most of the story comes from the tales I heard when I would sit and listen to my father and his friends speak," Johar explained.

After each session, she would run home to clandestinely record what she had heard.

Why did she write in secret? Being an educated woman was frowned upon by the elders. The younger ones were more educated and liberal, but their parents had not changed their ways and would not have looked kindly on recording their tales, she said.

And why did she wait over a decade before turning those tales into a novel?

The time was not ripe, she replied. "I saw all these Palestinian writers recording the history of their villages and towns, but no one was doing that among the Beduin.

"This is the first book I know that tells about the lives of modern Beduin, how they gave up their lives in tents, and moved into homes and into cities," she said.

Johar, who previously published a book of short stories (not based on Beduin life), strongly denied that her work was politically motivated, or that, as Bailey contends, it was aimed ultimately at linking a people more closely with the land.

But the conflicts of the region are what fuel her novel, and the story itself seems to betray her insistence that politics are not an issue for her.

Hamdan, the novel's hero, is eventually chased down and beaten to death by British soldiers during the British Mandate. His son, Marjoun, at the close of the book is shot dead by Israeli soldiers in the 1948 war.

Johar said the growth of the Arab el-Sawahrah after 1948, and the tribe's conflicts with Israel and other Palestinians, are the subjects of the sequel she plans to start soon – to be titled, not surprisingly, *Jozor Part 2*.

In South Africa, US blacks find a promising land

Whether to help a new democracy or themselves, African Americans have a new mecca, Paul Taylor reports

AS Georgetown University pre-med student Zambia McLeod was packing to visit her family here for Christmas, several of her black friends in the US stuffed her suitcase with resumes.

"They kept saying, 'We can't believe it. Your parents actually live in South Africa. How fantastic,' " she said. "Some want to move here."

Once the symbol to American blacks of all things evil, South Africa has become a bit of a mecca for them now that it is a black-led democracy.

"A lot of African Americans seem to have the idea that they can come here now and find that 40 acres and a mule they never did get at home," said McLeod's father, Mackie McLeod, who directs the Lotus Trust, the US computer firm's social-responsibility program in South Africa.

The McLeods are in the vanguard of a small but growing community of African Americans who have settled here in the wake of the political transition that culminated in April with Nelson Mandela's election as president.

They are corporate executives, development officials, educators, entrepreneurs, consultants. They number in the low hundreds, according to McLeod's best guess.

Some have come to do good, some to do well, some to fill a personal void, some to win battles they've given up for lost in the US.

Almost all have found the journey to be bracing. But some also have found it disorienting, as they discover how similar histories of oppression mask differences of outlook among the blacks of the two countries.

"When a black American comes to South Africa, there's this realization that here is this marvelously sophisticated country, with its impressive infrastructure, that is coming under black control," said Francis Kornegay Jr., director of the African-American Institute's South Africa program. "That's powerful coming from a society where blacks – no matter how successful – feel that control is tenuous, if it exists at all."

"The idea of flying in the business-class section of an airplane back to the continent where your ancestors had been dragged away in the hull of a ship, that's pretty amazing stuff," McLeod said.

But as he and others acknowledge, this is also an odyssey easy to over-romanticize – and fraught with potential disappointment.

"It's the old cliche – the African American comes to Africa and realizes just how American he is," said Kornegay, an African scholar who has visited South Africa on and off for two decades.

"Many of the American blacks who come are going to be in for a rude awakening," said Ron Carter, dean of students at the University of Witwatersrand. Until 1989, he was a dean at Boston University.

"You can very easily be seen as a carpetbagger, and your black skin won't help you," Carter said. "If you think you can come here, enjoy the comfort of living in Sandton [an exclusive, overwhelmingly white suburb] and just see the townships through bulletproof car windows, you're going to create resentment."

With black unemployment pushing 50 percent, there is a backlash against any foreigner who takes away jobs or profits. Beyond that, there is a complex relationship between South African and American blacks – one that encompasses everything from solidarity, kinship and admiration to envy, disappointment and misunderstanding.

While South African whites have historically looked to Europe for their cultural cues, blacks here have always been fascinated by America. African-American superstars of movies, sports and music are dominant cultural icons of the townships. It can lead to discomfort.

"People here look at me and think I must live like Bill Cosby and his [TV] family," said Barbara Lomax, a native Virginian who directs an AFL-CIO union training program and has been here two years. "I get a little uncomfortable with that.... We are somehow providing false hope."

Kornegay, by contrast, has been here just a few months and senses an instant comfort, especially with middle-class black South Africans who have grown more Westernized as they have climbed the economic ladder.

"I was at a party last weekend – about half South African black and half African American – and it was amazing the way we all just sort of melted into each other," Kornegay said. It may help that his wife is South African.

The blood and cultural connections between South African and American blacks are actually not all that old or thick. The Africans who were taken to America as slaves were drawn from farther north. The clothing that many black Americans associate with this continent comes from West Africa and the language, Swahili, from East Africa. "On the cultural level, about the only thing we share is jazz," Kornegay said.

It is on the political front that the bond is so potent.

American blacks were in the forefront of the worldwide anti-apartheid movement; South African blacks drew inspiration and guidance from the American civil-rights struggle. Thousands of black South African exiles made the US their home during the worst years of apartheid.

But even a common history of oppression has spawned some differences in the psyches of the two peoples.

"Blacks here have always known that ... they are the majority here," said Mamphela Ramphele, a South African sociologist who spent last year at Harvard. "There is a security and a rootedness which flows from that. On the other hand, I sense a great deal of helplessness and hopelessness among African Americans. You almost get the sense they want to come here to win the battles they felt they never fully won in the civil-rights era."

South Africans say this rootedness accounts for their lack of bitterness, their spirit of reconciliation and their patience. Many sense these attributes draw an undercurrent of disapproval from African-American expatriates.

"Some of the African Americans who have come here fault us for pussyfooting around," said Mfundi Vundla, a screenwriter who returned here in 1991 from 22 years in exile in the US.

"They see that the commanding heights of the economy are still lily-white, and they see us as a people who are not taking advantage of the opportunity to grab real power in a way they can't in the States."

McLeod doubts there will be a flood of African-American expatriates. "Our life histories have taught most of us to be pretty cautious," he said.

(The Washington Post)

Better the second time around

RON Carter, a university dean who used to have a similar post in the US, has had the experience of two weddings.

He first married his wife – then a South African exile – while living in Boston. It was a church ceremony and reception which lasted a half-day.

"My wife's family seemed a little confused by the whole thing," Carter recalled. When he came to South Africa to have a second wedding in his in-laws' rural village, he understood why.

"It started on a Monday and ended on a Tuesday – eight days later," Carter said.

This may be the deepest cultural gulf separating the two groups – Africans define themselves first as members of a community; Americans first as individuals.

"It's possible we'll become more like each other," Carter said, "but it will take some time."

(The Washington Post)

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'No changes yet for Leumi's holdings in Africa-Israel'

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE Treasury and Bank of Israel yesterday rejected Bank Leumi Chairman Moshe Sanbar's request to restructure the bank so it could retain its Africa-Israel holdings.

Sanbar proposed to create a holding company that would own both Bank Leumi and Africa-Israel, thus avoiding the requirement to reduce the bank's non-banking business holdings to 25 percent of any given company.

Leumi currently owns approximately 52% of Africa-Israel and must reduce its holdings to 25% by the end of next year.

Both Finance Minister Avraham Shohat and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel agreed yesterday after their meeting with Sanbar not to make any changes to the bank and its holdings for the next three months, so as not to interfere with the sale of the bank's controlling interest, which is in its final stages.

MI Holdings, the government company responsible for selling banks, is negotiating with a group headed by banker Edmond Safra of Republic Bank of New York, the sale of a 20%-40% share of Leumi.

After three months, the Treasury expects to have a clearer picture regarding the sale's progress to decide what are the preferred means for divesting Leumi of Africa-Israel shares to comply with banking laws.

Even after that period, the central bank is not expected to approve the creation of a holding company as a means to retain control of Africa-Israel, since it would not solve the conflict of interest created by the bank's operation as a financial institution and as a business owner – a conflict that the new banking laws aim to eliminate.

Following the joint Treasury-Bank of Israel decision Leumi's board met and recommended a course of action to be implemented in April.

It called on the bank to issue about $200m. in new Africa-Israel shares to meet the company's capital requirements and to trade all the shares in excess of 25% allowed, for shares of another large company.

In addition, the board directed the bank to reorganize itself as a holding company which will own a banking division and a separate non-banking business division.



Sanbar: Wanted to create a holding company that would own both Bank Leumi and Africa-Israel. (Ariel Jerozolimski)

Sanbar said fearful that directors out to get him

GALIT LIPKIS-BECK

MOSHE Sanbar, chairman of Leumi's board of directors, fears some of the directors are purposely leaking misleading information to the media in an attempt to hurt him, banking sources said yesterday.

The bank's board of directors held an emergency meeting to discuss leaks to the press.

Leumi earlier denied reports it is in negotiations to sell subsidiary Africa Israel to Paz and the Israel Corporation, as a Leumi director had leaked to the press.

The Levinstein committee, which was appointed by the government, has until January 15 to prepare a list of candidates to appoint on the arrangement banks' board of directors.

Sources said there is the possibility that some of the directors will not be appointed for another tenure due to the "apartments episode" which exploded earlier this week.

The Bank of Israel has started an inquiry into the benefits Sanbar received when he purchased four apartments from Africa Israel at a discount.

The central bank is examining whether Sanbar deviated from regulations concerning bonuses from subsidiary companies.

Shohat also decided to push ahead with the sale of 100% of Mercantile Discount Bank's shares in such a way that it will be separated from Bank Discount.

He directed MI Holdings to take the necessary steps to sell the bank.

Court indicts accountant on three counts of insider trading

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE Tel Aviv Magistrates Court yesterday indicted accountant Yitzhak Bash for using insider information to profit personally.

According to the Securities Authority's charge sheet, Bash used insider information in connection with three companies – Yissum Holdings (whose name was changed to Rosebud Medical), Mirage Development and Unicorn Investments.

Bash was previously employed as an accountant for Yissum and Mirage.

The Securities Authority said it started to investigate Bash two years ago after suspecting he took advantage of the information he received in 1992 to execute securities transactions.

The charge sheet lists three counts of insider trading against Bash.

According to the authority, he purchased NIS 31,000 worth of Yissum 1 shares after receiving information that Canada-Israel Investments was negotiating with the company's major shareholders to gain control of Yissum.

Bash purchased shares before an official announcement on the negotiations was released to the public. The shares were purchased on his father-in-law's account.

In the second charge, Bash is accused of buying NIS 33,000 worth of Mirage shares in four separate transactions.

The authority claims Bash purchased the shares based on insider information that Mirage planned to invest in construction of 360 housing units in Hadera. Once again, the shares were purchased in the name of Bash's parents-in-law.

Bash is also accused of using insider information to make 64 Unicorn security purchase transactions, worth about NIS 300,000.

The authority said he purchased the securities after receiving insider information regarding Michel Florsheim's negotiations to gain control of the company.

Bash received the information from someone in Unicorn, before an official announcement to the public on the negotiations was released.

'Rescuing defense industries costs $2.5b.'

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE government's rescue package for the defense industries will cost the taxpayer $2.5 billion, Treasury director general David Brodet said yesterday.

Up until last year, the government committed $525 million to Israel Aircraft Industries' recovery program and $400 million to TAAS-Israel Industries.

The Treasury is now considering an additional request for $700m. from TAAS-Israel Industries and is expecting to spend approximately $650m. on Rafael's recovery.

Brodet said should TAAS-Israel Industries workers fail to agree to reduce severance pay demands of 280 percent, the government will consider appointing an operating receiver or a liquidator, who will be able to reduce severance payments to only 100%.

Not wasting any time, Histadrut Trade Union Division Chairman Amir Peretz threatened an immediate company-wide strike, after meeting with TAAS-Israel Industries work committee chairman Haim Zweig yesterday, should the government name an operating receiver.

The workers will not allow any materials or products to be taken out of all the company's plants, should they strike, he said.

The Treasury is planning to further reduce the defense industry's workforce by between 5,000 and 6,000 workers in the next year and a half. According to Brodet, the optimal size of the workforce is between 18,000 and 19,000 employees, down from the current 24,000.

Brodet also announced the Treasury would bring back the Economic Arrangements Law to the Knesset's plenum on Monday as a package, saying he expected it would be approved.

However, he did not indicate he had any assurances from coalition chairman Eli Dayan that he would refrain from attaching a long school-day provision to the bill.

Nevertheless, Brodet wondered how the government will be able to implement its fiscal policies until the 1996 elections, if the Knesset continues going its own way to score political gains for the party primaries.

He warned that should this situation continue, fiscal stability will be threatened.

According to Brodet, the budget deficit for 1994 will total approximately 2% of the Gross Domestic Product, instead of the originally planned 3%. Together with the lower deficit, the domestic debt fell in nominal terms for the first time in the country's history, he added.

However, Brodet questioned if the country can afford to keep up the present rate of social spending, which, if it continues, will impinge on economic growth.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Palestinian Authority to freeze new bank licenses: The newly appointed head of the Palestinian monetary authority said he proposed halting the licensing of banks to operate in Palestinian self-rule areas until he could monitor them properly. Fouad Biseiso, appointed last week, said at a news conference late on Monday that a Bank of England specialist would arrive in Gaza soon to help set up a bank monitoring unit, sponsored by the International Monetary Fund. *Reuter*

Carmel Carpets liquidator defends right to grant interviews: Carmel Carpets liquidator Yosef Cohen told the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday that MK Avraham Shapira, former owner of the firm, cannot stop him from giving interviews just because he does not agree with his views. He was responding to a request Shapira filed with the court to order Cohen not to give interviews.

Bank Discount offers new investment routes: Bank Discount yesterday announced it is offering several new index-linked investment routes. The bank has started to offer a three-month index linked deposit at 5% interest annually and a one-year, index-linked deposit at 3.5% annual interest. Discount said these interest rates will be offered on deposits of NIS 100,000 and more.

Liberty (Israel) begins marketing products in Egypt, Jordan: Liberty (Israel), sole regional distributors of Italian foundation garment house Liberty, began to market its products in both Egypt and Jordan this week. Egyptian intimate apparel company Laiko has been chosen as sub-contractor to the Liberty.

Teledata board approves Yosef Atzmon as general manager: The nomination of Yosef Atzmon as Teledata general manager was approved yesterday by the company's board of directors.

US-based Home Center places 200,000 order with Magdal: US-based DIY chain Home Center has placed a $200,000 order with Madgal of Kibbutz Gilil Yam for Eurogal faucets.

WORLD BRIEFS

Peso falls after Mexico releases economic rescue plan: The peso fell again yesterday as Mexico waited for President Ernesto Zedillo to explain his economic emergency plan and investors worried about possible labor opposition to the sweeping measures.

Mexican authorities announced the plan, which curbs economic growth, holds down wages and cuts public spending, yesterday after marathon talks between government, labor and business representatives on an economic pact to accompany the plan. The new peso fell 50 centavos to 5.4 to the dollar following announcement of the plan.

Chemical Banking Corp. said its trading revenues for the fourth quarter of 1994 will be reduced by about $70 million as a result of losses sustained from unauthorized foreign exchange transactions involving the Mexican peso.

It said the transactions were undertaken by an employee in New York who took positions in the peso in violation of authorized risk limits and then concealed the positions. Chemical said the losses, about $40 million after taxes, were sustained when the value of the peso fell sharply in late December. *Reuter*

Saatchi founder makes embittered final exit: Maurice Saatchi, co-founder and deposed chairman of British advertising giant Saatchi & Saatchi Co., finally severed all links with it yesterday, saying in his view the company had been taken over.

Saatchi had been offered a new, lesser, role after being ousted as chairman in a shareholder revolt led by David Herro of Chicago-based fund manager Harris Associates late last year. But in a terse, bitterly ironic memo to Saatchi company secretary Graham Howell, Saatchi – who had until yesterday to make up his mind, said: "Please inform Mr. Herro that I do not accept his offer. It was kind of him to consider me for the position."

Committee split on whether MKs can serve on company boards

DAN IZENBERG

THE Knesset House Committee yesterday failed to decide between two versions of a bill aimed at restricting the rights of MKs to serve on the board of directors of companies, and will therefore send both versions to the plenum for a final decision.

The bill was initiated by Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Chairman Ori Orr, who wants to bar MKs from serving as directors.

According to his proposal, the Knesset Ethics Committee may in special cases allow an MK to serve on the board of a non-profit organization if it is convinced the position will not create a conflict of interests with his parliamentary responsibilities.

Orr's proposal encountered stiff opposition in the committee. Meretz MK Avraham Poraz submitted a compromise allowing MKs to serve as directors without pay.

In exceptional cases, the Ethics Committee may allow an MK to receive a salary, according to Poraz.

The committee split down the middle on the two proposals. Orr, Yitzhak Levy (NRP), Haggai Merom (Labor), Ran Cohen (Meretz), Rehavam Ze'evi (Moledet) and Limor Livnat (Likud) voted for Orr's version.

Yossi Vanunu (Labor), Meir Sheetrit (Likud), Emanuel Zissman (Labor), Eli Dayan (Labor), Ra'anan Cohen (Labor) and Poraz voted for the other.

Knesset Finance Committee approves bill to license investment advisers, managers

EVELYN GORDON

THE Knesset Finance Committee's capital markets subcommittee yesterday approved a bill to license investment counselors and portfolio managers, but left five key issues to the decision of the full Finance Committee.

These issues are as follows:

- Whether individuals should have to incorporate to be licensed. The entire subcommittee says no, but Securities Authority head Arye Minkevich favors this provision.
- Whether customers must give personal financial information to their advisers. Minkevich says this is essential to enable counselors to give properly tailored advice, but Shalom considers it an invasion of privacy.
- Whether banks may give investment advice. Minkevich says that given the reality of Israel's economy, they must be allowed to do so, but Shalom says this increases the banks' power too much.
- How much shareholders' equity should be required of investment counselors and portfolio managers. Minkevich wants a lower limit of NIS 300,000-NIS 500,000, while subcommittee chairman Silvan Shalom (Likud) wants a "minimal" requirement.
- Whether university courses or professional experience in certain fields can exempt one from parts of the licensing exams. Shalom says yes, Minkevich no.

Shalom said these points are so crucial he will vote against the bill if most of his views are not accepted by the full committee, even though as subcommittee head he has been responsible for preparing it for its second and third reading.

The bill – a merger of a government bill and private member's bills by Dan Tichon (Likud) and Gidon Saguy (Labor) – states that anyone involved in investment advice or portfolio management must be licensed by the Securities Authority, with a few exceptions.

These include people who give investment advice in the media, people advising their own company as part of their job, and accountants, tax advisers or lawyers who give free advice to their clients in the context of their work.

Licensees must be at least 21 years old, with no criminal convictions, and have passed a licensing exam.

Investment counselors must also undergo a period of apprenticeship, whose length will be specified in accompanying regulations, while portfolio managers must either have worked as an investment adviser for three years or undergone an apprenticeship.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (3.1.95)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	5.750	6.250	7.000
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.000	5.500*	6.375
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.250	4.500	4.875
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.125	3.375	3.625
Yen (10 million yen)	0.750	0.875	1.000

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (3.1.95)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.3380	3.3850	—	—	3.3646
U.S. dollar	3.0000	3.0483	2.95	3.09	3.0240
German mark	1.9243	1.9514	1.89	1.99	1.9406
Pound sterling	4.6884	4.7818	4.00	4.02	4.7197
French franc	0.5590	0.5669	0.54	0.58	0.5629
Japanese yen (100)	2.9901	3.0323	2.94	3.08	3.0175
Dutch florin	1.7182	1.7424	1.69	1.77	1.7327
Swiss franc	2.2770	2.3091	2.24	2.35	2.2965
Swedish krona	0.4029	0.4086	0.40	0.42	0.4057
Norwegian krone	0.4410	0.4472	0.43	0.46	0.4449
Danish krone	0.4906	0.4978	0.48	0.51	0.4941
Finnish mark	0.6289	0.6378	0.62	0.65	0.6346
Canadian dollar	2.1444	2.1746	2.11	2.21	2.1635
Australian dollar	2.3136	2.3462	2.28	2.41	2.3304
S. African rand	0.8450	0.8569	0.74	0.86	0.8518
Belgian franc (10)	0.9375	0.9507	0.92	0.97	0.9441
Austrian schilling (10)	2.7350	2.7735	2.69	2.82	2.7586
Italian lira (1000)	1.8498	1.8756	1.81	1.92	1.8624
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.17	4.43	4.3092
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.85	0.91	0.9677
ECU	3.6612	3.7128	—	—	3.6908
Irish punt	4.6257	4.6909	4.52	4.80	4.6693
Spanish pesets (100)	2.2727	2.3048	2.21	2.36	2.2934

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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هكذا من الأصل

Key Representative Rates

		Change
US dollar	NIS 3.0240	+0.20%
Sterling	NIS 4.7187	+0.12%
Mark	NIS 1.9406	-0.43%

INT'L STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	3838.14	+3.7
DJ Transport	1471.58	+18.53
DJ Utils	182.18	+0.66
DJ Comp	1280.15	+5.74
NYSE Industr	316.84	-1.28
NYSE Transport	284.33	+1.87
NYSE Comp	250.36	-0.59
S&P 100	427.78	-0.67
S&P Spot index	458.28	-0.98
AMEX Comp	432.79	-0.86

NYSE stocks

	Unchanged	Advances	Declines
Share movements	+570	1127	1217
Volume up (in 1000's)			91306
Volume down (in 1000's)			122570

Other stock market indexes

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	3065.7	+0.2
Tokyo Nikkei average	19723	0
Singapore all-share index	530.94	-2.83
Hong Kong Hang Seng index	7844.14	-346.9
Israel index	111.22	-3.84

Israeli stocks in NY

	Last	Change
NYSE / AMEX		
Am Is Pap	47	0
Ampal A'	8.5	-0.125
Arel	1.59375	+0.03125
BioTechnology	2.1875	+0.03125
Carmel Cont	7.375	0
Frutarom (electrochem)	3.375	+0
Elscint	1.875	+0
Etz Lavud	6.875	-0.125
Etz Lavud A	6.375	+0.125
Laser T.	5.625	-0.125
PEC	27.75	-0.75
Tadiran	21	+0.125
NASDAQ / over-the-counter		
Aladdin	8	-0.75
4TH. Dimension	4.125	-0.03125
Ampal 8.5	18.5	0
BVR	4.75	-0.25
Converse	12.5625	+0.3875
Data (Defense)	5.5	+0.75
ECI	13.375	-0.25
Edunetics	1.4375	+0.0625
Edu-Soft	7.25	+0.25
Electric Fuel	5.75	-0.5
EFFI	35	-2.5
Elbit	20	-1
Elron	8.875	-0.25
Eshed Robotec	0.5	0
Fibronics	0.9687	+0
M. Systems	4.125	+0
Gilat	12.75	+0.75
ISG	1.9375	+0.03125
Geotek	8.625	+0
Health Tech	1.625	+0.0625
Iden	0.34375	+0
IIS	2.53125	+0.03125
Indigo	18.25	-0.375
Interpharm	14.875	0
Isramco	1.25	+0.03125
First Isr Fund	10.25	+0.125
Isstek	0.46875	-0.03125
Lannet	20.375	-3.125
Lanoptics	8.125	+0
Magal	3	+0
Media-Al	1.875	+0
Mercury	13	-0.25
Magic	5.375	0
Orbotech	8.125	+0
Oshap Tech	2.125	0
Rada	3.75	+0
Robomatics	0.8377	0
Sapiens	1.71875	-0.0625
Scitex	18.875	+0.25
Silicom	4.125	+0
T.A.T. Technol	2.5	-0.0625
Taro Vit	7	-0.375
Teledata	4.25	-0.5
Telegraph	2.5	-0.125
Tower Semicond	10.75	-0.25
Teva	24	-0.1875
TVG	1	0

(All listings are closing quotes)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 2-JAN-95)

INT'L MONEY MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)

		Last	Change
Pound:	spot	1.5631	+0.0031
	Max.future (CME)	1.5642	-0.0028
D-mark:	spot	1.5589	-0.0043
	Max.future (CME)	0.6442	-0.0033
S-franc:	spot	1.3137	-0.0046
	Max.future (CME)	0.7644	-0.0039
Yen:	spot	100.65	+0.43
	Max.future (CME)	0.01001	-8.8e-005
CanDlr:	spot	1.4056	+0.0083
	Max.future (CME)	0.7108	-0.0019
AusDlr:	spot	0.7697	-0.0071
	Max.future (CME)	0.7658	-0.0072
F-franc:	spot	5.3633	-0.0159
It Lira:	spot	1623	+1.5
Nlg:	spot	1.7425	-0.0036
AutSchl:	spot	10.945	+0.03
Rand:	spot	3.5496	+0.0045
ECU:	spot	1.2226	+0.0045
Bonds	future	99.7188	-0.4375
S and P	future	461.4	+0.05

Libor rates

		Last	Change
Dollar	3 months	6.5	0
Dollar	6 months	7	0
Dollar	12 months	7.8125	+0.0625
Sterling	3 months	6.6875	0
Sterling	6 months	7.1875	-0.0625
Sterling	12 months	8	0
S-franc	3 months	4.25	0
S-franc	6 months	4.5	0
S-franc	12 months	4.8125	0
D-mark	3 months	5.25	0
D-mark	6 months	5.5	0
D-mark	12 months	5.9062	0
Yen	3 months	2.4375	0
Yen	6 months	2.5	0
Yen	12 months	2.625	0

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 2-JAN-95)

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INT'L COMMODITIES AND METALS

US commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Mar) (CEC)	1294	+14
Coffee (Mar) (CEC)	167.75	-1.1
Sugar no.11 (Mar) (CEC)	15.39	+0.22
Wheat (Mar) (CBOT)	395.5	-8
Orange juice (Jan)(CEC)	107.35	+0.05
Crude oil light (Mar)(CEC)	17.41	-0.3

London commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Mar) (LCE)	971	-5
Coffee (Jan) (LCE)	2699	-55
Brent crude oil (Mar)(IPE)	1511	-36

Spot market metals (US)

		Last	Change
Gold:	spot	379.6	-3.15
Silver:	spot	4.74	-0.15

New York metal futures

	Last	Change
Gold (Feb)	380.9	-3.5
Silver (Mar)	4.762	-0.155
Platinum (Jan.)	411.3	-3.4
Palladium (Mar.)	160.7	+0.45
High-grade copper (Mar)	1.357	-0.049

London metal fixes

	Last	Change
Gold PM fix	381.4	-1.1
Gold PM fix	380.9	-2.85
Silver fix	484.1	-0.9
Platinum PM fix	416.15	-2.6

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date

(Spot market listings are from aproximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 2-JAN-95)

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Commercial Banks

Name	Price	%chg
FoalotW2	1519	-10.0
General	7748	-1.0
IndDevDD		
IndDvPrD		
MercC	181.00	
OHH	144395	-2.7
Trade	711	-0.7
TradeC	178.00	-0.3

Mortgage Banks & Finance

Name	Price	%chg
Adanim	329878	
Carmel	661	0.3
CarmC3	268	
DevMB	18720	-0.7
FintMB	33776	
IsdepMB	61868	
J lemC	125.00	
JemBnk	389	0.4
LeumiMBR	78194	-0.5
MishkarC	182.00	
Mizlov	6278	-8.5
TafahotR	158225	-0.3

Financial Institutions

Name	Price	%chg
Shilon	7799	

Insurance

Name	Price	%chg
Isradbr1	983	-5.2
Ararat	1719	
Ayalon	694	
AyalonC	393	
Elen	394	
ElenC1	216	2.9
Hadar1	1115	
Hadar5	1052	-1.0
HamabovC	206	2.0
Hamshar1	1354	-0.2
Hamshar5	1297	
Menorah1	882	-1.2
Menorah5	929	-0.2
Phoenix1	2541	-1.0
Phoenix5	2461	
Sahar	493	
Zion5	11342	-1.0

Trade & Services

Name	Price	%chg
Isshmira	330	-2.7
Idahau	914	0.2
Basan	1775	-3.8
BezalelW2	126.00	
BodWebC1	130.50	
BodWbC2	127.00	
BondWrtsl L	2947	-2.0
Clbg0.1	55736	-0.3
Clal Comp	10862	-1.2
ClalCmpC	169.50	10.1
CorBeach	1223	
CoOp	1165	
Crystal	1826	
DanHotl1	2045	-0.5
DCL	650	
DCLW	98.00	
Eled	127.50	-1.2
Feldman	158.50	
GanHadar	253	-2.3
GanHadC	203	-0.5
GlRegG2	183.50	
GraniteC1	103.50	-0.5
GranitW2	97.50	-11.0
HGzC1	129.00	
HGlW1	83.50	
HGlt1	363	
Intgemel1	3338	-0.2
Intgemel5	2989	-5.0
Lidz	1198	-1.0
Maill	1041	-0.5
Medtech	458	-2.9
MedtechW	559	8.7
MLLC1	185.50	
Repac	1694	-1.0
Reshef	85.50	3.2
ReshefC1	108.50	
Team	2855	
TeamC1	186.00	
Taleys	1057	
Topline	320	-0.3
YaadC1	118.50	-0.4
Yeena	1812	5.2
Yesari	1060	-0.3
Yona	497	2.8

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
ankotashk	166.00	9.9
electracp	1957	
Imco	392	-0.6
eclog	817	
wiliger	174.50	
yehodasel	394	-0.4
AcissC	114.00	
Adacom	36.50	
AdacomC2	13.80	
Aliance	1219	-2.0
Alony	287	-1.8
AlumitIL	10895	
Angel	10505	-2.0
Argaman	447	-4.8
AraC1	77.50	
Ashpty	1541	
Ashplyc1	186.00	-1.5
AshplyW2		
Ashtrom	329	0.6
Atzmon	298	
AtzmonW1	118.50	
Azimuth	463	-1.1
Belton	628	-3.5
BoutsC1	190.50	-3.1
Cables C2		
CablesC3	127.50	0.4
CableW3	227	8.1
Carmline	720	-4.0
Carpal	1474	0.5
Castro	1311	-1.0
Chem	584	-1.8
CldSrC	240	
CldSat0.1	1893	-0.5
Clind C8	175.00	
CyclonaW		
Cyclone1	7878	
Cyclone5	5707	0.2
CyclonC1	159.50	-0.6
CyclonC2	103.50	-1.4
Delronci	177.00	
DelronW2	741	-8.2
Delron1	2699	-1.5
Decision	380	-1.8
Degem1	1273	-1.0
Delta 1	1589	-9.8
Delta5	1582	1.7
Dubek5	6551	
DubekR	9993	
EagleC		
EagleC2	45.00	
EagleW3	36.50	
Eagle1	92.00	
Edgar	284	-0.7
EdgarC2	133.50	0.4
EldanTec	68.50	-0.7
ElbitW1	7278	-2.0
Elcoing	4714	
Elctmos	757	-0.5
Elcr 0.5	7989	1.0
ElectrG4	294	
ElecC	257	6.4
EshdRbtc	354	0.6
Evrot	172.00	0.9
Ferro5	1449	-6.0
Fert0.1	1950	-10.0
FeuchtW1	8017	
FeuchtW5	5743	
Five J	341	0.3
FrutarC1	207	0.5
FrutarC2	190.00	
GiborC7	85.00	
GiborSab	414	2.2
GiborW2	400	-0.2
Golan	836	
Hamat1	891	
Hasbon1	290	2.8
Hasbo5	136.50	
Hod	267	-0.4
Holit	130.50	-9.4
IsrCarl1	2850	-1.0
Jel-ora	789	
Kadmany1	240	
Kedem	5054	-1.0
KedemC2	174.00	
Kaysr	854	2.0
KitanC1	138.00	
Kla	2082	
Kla5	2032	
Lipski	2578	3.0
Lodzia1	1298	
Lodzia4	1234	0.2
LunotGal	165.00	
MacPell	258	-1.9
Magen	493	-2.0
Maxima1	1413	
Maxima5	1192	-0.5
Mel Eden	1154	0.5
Modgal	1026	
Mozaica1	321	-2.1
Mozaica5	291	-2.0
NegCeram	304	
Nehushtn1	832	5.0
Nehushtn5	780	0.8
Neviot	3218	
Nice1	1448	-1.0
NMC	453	
Olis	880	
Ophir	247	-0.4
Ortiz1	360	
Orlita	401	-1.5
PackerW2	5725	0.2
Pagod	1592	
PazChem	483	0.4
Pika	724	
PolgatA	358	-1.1
PolgatC1	178.50	-1.1
Polygon	877	
PolygonC	167.50	
PCB	844	
Rabintex	379	-0.8
RabintxW	93.00	16.5
Sanitol1	372	-1.3
Sano1	1184	0.8
Sano5	1164	
Sefen	359	-0.8
Shaman	5485	-0.8
Spctrnx	354	
Steel	228	0.9
Sunlock	5517	-1.0
Taal	35088	-1.0
Tadiran	729	
Tamboue	898	
Tadea	1051	
TevaC	423	
Tlv	744	-0.3
Toblast	454	
Topper	175.00	
TATC1	183.50	-2.1
TAT3	491	-1.0
Unibar1	2066	-5.0
Unibar5	383	7.2
Vitalgo1	671	
Vulcan	294	2.1
VulcanC	168.50	-0.3
Wardinon	20007	
WardinW3	9688	-2.0
YbogC2	355	
Zahavi	234	
Zika1	1907	-1.5
Zika5	1828	6.5
Zikt	4161	-5.5
Z945	3929	
ZenCab1	956	
Zoharind	430	-2.1

Property, Building & Agriculture

Name	Price	%chg
jacplanr	134.50	-10.0
cnvad	303	0.3
izarfati	378	-0.3
wellsio	74339	-2.0
y.starg	169.00	-0.9
Alrov	1460	-1.5
AlrovW1L	41.40	-10.0
Arazim	188.00	
Arazim C1	186.00	-1.5
Aradan1	1290	
Azals	1910	0.9
AzalsC4	162.50	
AzalsW2	679	3.5
Azorim	1258	-0.5
AzorimC1	250	
AzorprC1	257	-0.8
AzrProp	578	-1.0
Baranc1	956	-3.0
Bayside5	28016	-2.0
BaysidC1	28682	0.5
BetYaaKov	1985	-0.5
BenYakW1	837	-18.7
BenYhavC	80.50	
BldgRes	4335	-1.0
Contact	1524	3.0
DanKnar	1554	-4.0
DanKnarC	163.50	-3.0
Darziti1	201	-8.1
Dunbar	4282	
DunbarCw	271	
Engel	371	-1.1
GoldHous	340	-2.0
GldHousC	197.50	
Ispro	3031	
Israloom	1834	-1.2
IsraloomC	206	-2.8
IsrasC1	186.50	-9.9
Israel0.5	4677	1.0
Israel1	8027	
ICP5	20220	-2.0
Jaysour1	190.60	-4.0
Jordan	369	0.5
LazaliC1	97.00	-3.5
Laznick	190.50	1.3
Liabib5	177.00	
Lunar1	3771	
MalibuC2	116.50	
Malibu1	605	
MarLazC		
MarLzC2	87.00	
MarLzW3	185.00	
Minrav	7168	
Mishmeel	835	-1.2
MTM	2570	-2.0
NeotAviv	1815	
PrOr	6583	
RedSea	815	
Rogovin1L	1166	
Rogovin5	1074	
Rotem	587	0.7
Secom	306	
Shaked	437	
Tashluz	875	-7.3

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
taya	1046	-0.3
Achasi1	782	2.0
Achasi2	741	0.5
AfdarC	452	
Ampa	122709	-0.7
Arad	5698	-0.7
Azr aC2	178.50	-3.3
ClalWS	1157	
Clal50	7358	-0.2
DanbarC	202	0.5
Danbar1	2221	0.5
Elern	2577	
Enech	182.00	
ExportC4	230	
Hilen	367	
HilenW4	240	-4.0
Hiron5	8959	
Isral	1307	-0.2
IDLC8	184.00	-0.3
JoelC1	173.50	
JoelC1A	177.50	
Karden1	340	
Kital	398	-2.8
Magor1	1868	
Magor5	1702	
Molax	547	
OctC1	129.50	
OctW1	3683	-0.5
Ofer	5535	-5.0
Pama0.1	1160	
Rim1	447	-0.7
Rim4	318	
SaharDev	2527	
Secutk	2155	-0.5
SecursC	122.50	-0.4
SesurtsW	535	-1
SAPANHASP	981	
TayaC	245	-2.0
TaurC1	182.50	
TzurShmr	93.50	1.1
Unico	8250	-1.2

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	%chg
MGN1	5893	-2.0

PARALLEL LIST

Trade & Services

Name	Price	%chg
alkamil	623	
artex	940	-0.5
gleak	271	
tdcins.	155.90	
italbaris	242	-2.0
mivtahsha	1008	
mevsys	2394	-1.5
mdaathd	378	
tlm	507	
AtlantWt	637	
Commec	1019	
Dalet1	2.80	-3.4
Danel	1152	
Data	1116	
Elbach	412	-0.5
Greenbrg	620	
ILDCHOT	434	0.7
Kiod	249	-1.2
Kopel	248	-0.4
KopelC7	167.00	
MZPK	392	
Neon1	416	4.5
Regency Ho	141.50	-2.1
TrandLin	1310	-0.2

Property, Building

Name	Price	%chg
a.doll	111.50	
alonbetz	94.50	-1.0
granatcr	141.00	-0.4
bandor	686	
Adler	234	
Bar—Tom1	1865	
Caesarea1	4176	-3.2
Dady	710	0.6
Gazit	456	
GazitW7	251	10.1
GzutC1	276	-0.7
Lazmich	128.5	
Lamatn1	793	-5.0
Maissen	841	-0.5
Oz	208	-0.5
Roseco	2027	
Scandia	165.00	
ScandiaC	108.00	
UnicomG1	141.50	
Unicom1	133.00	1.9
Unicom5	89.50	8.8
UnicorW3	49.40	

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
aboodisgn	83.50	0.6
isdoorisgn	335	-0.6
lipman	1419	0.5
ueashnkd	898	-1.0
alaco	1802	-8.0
phyton	227	-0.9
reichen	1641	0.5
tachem	517	-2.1
lotmauer	808	-1.9
Vleatrix	127.00	
zinmetal	1314	-0.5
Aduanim1	237	0.4
Baruch1	2206	-1.0
Baruch5	750	-5.8
Brosh1	381	-7.8
Dexter	2038	
Elram	205	5.7
Gal	192.50	
King1	708	
Lahish1	3130	-4.0
ManC1	138.00	-2.8
Man1	185.50	-2.8
MLT	1180	
Naca	31583	
NacaG1	197.00	
Ocolab	854	
Oazit	202	-0.5
OrazitC	88.50	-0.6
OrdaPrnt	1080	8.0
Polak1	384	-10.5
Shiodal	127.50	-1.2
Taste	702	-1.0

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
darbem1	2142	-3.0
ildar	885	
marathon	72.00	-0.7
Allen	1448	1.0
Binyan	68879	5.3
Harnan	1871	-1.0
Mirage	131.00	-2.8
Optima	193.00	
Ragent1	384	
Yatzum	95.00	-3.1

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	%chg
DIKOEx1	2241	
Naphtha	35.70	

Two-sided trading

	AFTERNOON			MORNING		
Name	Price	% Change	Volume Shares	Price	% Change	Volume Shares
buildpr	519	0.5		519	0.6	738
nacional	1061		14200	1058	-0.3	16983
Abjac	21.9			21.9		149997
Ackerin	302		75000	298	-1.3	21550
Afris 0.	321627	-2.7	200	319147	-3.5	483
Alrar	309040	-1.0	105	305138	-2.3	79
Agan	4209	0.2	1400	4199		7554
Agis	1874	-0.5		1674	-0.5	4942
Aryt	465	-2.2		465	-2.3	2926
Avner	7.1	0.7	200000	7.1	1.4	224000
Azorim	3757		5200	3719	-1.0	5000
ALPM	13906	0.7	500	13602		710
Bezek	527	0.2	330000	526		129058
Boulo	199.0	0.5	7030	198.0		17445
Cables	1524		13000	1524		14123
Clal Ele	23800	0.5	2600	23682		1467
Clal Tra	827	-0.2	1200	825	-0.5	3130
Clal 10	7453	0.2	6200	7434		4538
Clalins	1098	0.2	9000	1095		15000
Cldstr 5	1854	-1.5	18400	1858	-1.3	10400
Clnds	1751	0.2	41400	1747		26234
CohenDev	573	-1.7	5000	571	-2.1	21800
Danbar 5	1882	0.2	1600	1882	0.3	4915
Dead Sea	763	1.0	126000	757	0.3	51311
Delek	8285	1.2	14220	8182		7944
Discinv	19728		9680	19728		2416
Elbit	18962	-1.0	4250	20063	-0.5	2054
Elco	9075	-1.0	2520	9075	-1.0	2014
Elite 5	1518	1.7	61000	1492		18364
Elron	9119	0.5	3960	9074		3408
Evergr n	2484	1.7	8450	2453	0.5	10408
Export	1369	-4.5	43000	1338	-8.0	15250
Fibi	41960	0.5	700	41751		247
Formula	978	-1.0	1600	978	-1.0	3181
Frstint1	35140		60	35140		1214
Frstint5	33828	0.5	810	33461		933
Frutarom	1043		15000	1046	0.3	8650
Gahelet	5617	-1.5	1800	5432	-4.8	507
Granit	476	-1.5	45000	476	-1.4	29700
Hapoalim	429	0.2	196000	426		205495
Hapolm	7434		600	7434		1074
IndBldg	410		104000	410		50932
IndDevBK	27415	0.7	200	27279	0.2	313
Isramco	7.1	5.0	7700300	7.1	4.4	3273961
IsrCorp1	22910	-0.2	6720	22680	-1.2	2778
IsrCorp5	21752		350	21752		1126
IsChem	259	0.5	384000	258		470853
IDB	978	0.5	195000	973		69583
IDBDev	5000	1.0	29100	4950		7362
ILDC	968	-4.0	3000	968	-4.0	11084
JEC	1018		45000	1008	-1.0	14335
JOEL	129.0	-0.7	24000	129.0	-0.8	143798
Kardan5	326	-1.5	45000	325	-1.8	18031
Kitan	1041	-1.2		1041	-1.2	11835
Koor	22685	0.5	5950	22572		3412
Leumi	340	0.2	117000	339		113582
Litshitz1	278	0.7	12000	276		24000
Makhtesh	1598	0.5	17000	1590		22230
Malibu5	779	1.7	12600	766		10992
Maman	781	-0.7	6000	779	-1.0	34429
Marit1	2187	0.2	3500	2182		12690
Mashov	250	-0.5		250	-0.4	36899
Mehadrin	14457			14457		1709
MeirEzra	2171	-2.2	2400	2171	-2.3	3564
Mishkan	27216			27216		135
Mivtah	1137	-1.5	2400	1140	-1.2	4267
Multlock	1118	-2.0		1118	-2.0	3807
MGN5	5146	-3.0		5146	-3.0	425
MLL1	390	4.0		390	4.0	3500
NatolDS	8.5	0.5		8.5		188383
Ocif	8023	-0.5	180	8063		532
Ormat	726	0.5	18000	724		28077
Osem	1901	-0.7	15200	1915		10394
PazollEx	88.0	-4.0		88.0	-3.8	26472
Packer	10099	-1.0		10099	-1.0	745
Pericles	2062	-2.0	1400	2062	-2.0	7534
Petrchem	1401	3.2	45600	1364	0.5	20874
Piryon	10518			10518		185
PolgatB	401			401		14061
Poseidon	70.0	-7.7		70.0	-7.9	41371
Rogosin	1901	-3.5	700	1901	-3.5	3310
SelaPump	153.5	-2.0	40000	153.5	-1.9	71681
SupersIB	4986	-0.2	30300	4988	-0.2	12189
TelehotB	174354		225	174354		15
Tempo1	1356	0.2	18000	1360	0.5	8104
Teva	72439	1.0	2360	71722		1963
Tbnveal	348	-8.0		348	-7.9	11765
TAT5	307	-1.2		307	-1.3	39244
Urdan 0.	383	-0.2		383	-0.3	16936
Yaad	582	-7.0		582	-7.0	1270
Ytong	795			795		37000

SOURCE: ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK — THE PEOPLE YOU CAN TALK TO.

Two-Sided Index rises slightly on low turnover

Two-Sided index	Maof index	Karam index
170.37 +0.14%	172.50 +0.24%	151.90 -0.60%

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ANDRE LUMBROSO

THE Two-Sided Index rose 0.14 percent and the Maof 0.24 percent, as the Karam declined 0.6% yesterday.

But with a turnover of only *NIS 79 million, the TASE can* hardly be considered a "market."

All that happened was that a few investors felt it was time to buy. Without any broader signs of a recovery, these intentions of a few people were sufficient to raise prices.

The contraction of the volume, *should it continue or become* worse, might send the market through a long period of hibernation, which will make investors miss 1994.

Observers related to two phenomena:

Regarding the tax, investors are waiting. The clearest example of this is on the Maof Options Market. The imposition of the tax simply changes all the calculations as to profitability of the options.

The other factor is the bond market. Turnovers there amounted *to NIS 154m. It is unusual to* have a turnover on the bond market higher than on the stock market.

But the bond market simply offers a better return than the share market – close to 4% in real *terms, although the recent re*newed popularity of bonds has led to some lowering of the yield curve.

Confronted *with a choice be*tween solid investments in bonds and low returns on shares, investors have apparently no trouble choosing.

An additional lure is the possible lowering of interest rates.

Should this occur, there will be a reduction in yields, both on the linked *bond market and on the* unlinked Treasury Bill market.

In plain terms, this will lead to a rise in prices, hence a capital gain for those who bought at high yields.

The Two-Sided Index rose from 170.1 to 170.7, declined to 170.2 and went up to close at 170.4. The spread from the day's minimum to the day's maximum was a grand total of 0.3%.

Teva was the most traded security, with a turnover of more than NIS 3.1m., and its price rose by 1%; Koor and Israel Chemicals went up 0.5%, and Bezek rose 0.3%.

Elite was up 1.8% on a relatively high turnover of NIS 1.2m. Isramco increased 5%. The Meir Ezra group was under selling pressure.

Poseidon declined 7.7%, and is now selling for 70 agorot, while T-Bone Veal dropped 8%.

FTSE Index nudges upward

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuter) – UK blue chips stepped timidly into 1995, as the FTSE 100 index rebounded from a shallow trough to close a fraction of a point higher in light post-holiday activity after trading *within a narrow band most of the* day.

The FTSE 100 Index closed up 0.2 points at 3,065.7.

FRANKFURT - German shares recovered slightly from the day's low by the bourse close, but again slipped back in post-bourse trade.

The DAX Index closed 4.67 points down at 2,074.78. In post-bourse trade the DAX Index fell to 2,068.92.

PARIS - French shares ended a dull session higher on the first trading day of the new year with many traders returning from a long break.

Investors were still wary due to uncertainty over interest rate developments. The CAC-40 Index closed up 4.76 points, or 0.25 percent at 1,885.91.

ZURICH - Swiss shares closed lower on low volume, the market lacked direction and the outlook was uncertain.

Weak bonds and future weighed on sentiment. The Broad SPI fell 10.33 points to 1,715.20.

TOKYO - Japanese stock markets are closed for the New Year holiday. They will resume tomorrow.

Last Friday morning, the final trading session of 1994, the Nikkei average *ended 29.92 points,* or 0.15%, below Thursday's close at 19,723.06.

HONG KONG - Stocks plunged on the first trading day of the year on fears of a Sino-US trade war and a possible US interest rate rise later this month.

The Hang Seng Index dropped *346.90 points, or 4.24%, to close* at 7,844.14.

SYDNEY - The Australian share market finished its first session of the New Year weaker on very light volume.

The fall came after offshore markets ended 1994 narrowly mixed giving the local market no *clear direction. The All Ordinar*ies Index ended 7.8 points, or *0.41%, lower at 1904.9.*

JOHANNESBURG - Gold shares finished around their lows after bullion slipped from its promising early levels and key gold counters went ex-dividend.

The Overall Index ended 29.6 lower at 5,837.3, the Industrial index 9.2 down at 6,975.2, and *the Gold index 37.3 down at* 1,986.

Stocks end mixed on year's first trading day

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuter) – Wall Street stocks closed mixed in light trading yesterday, getting the new year off to a lackluster start.

The Dow Jones industrial average gained 4.04 points to end at 3,838.48, based on early and unofficial results.

In the broader market, advances and declines were nearly even on thin trading of 263 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

The market was little influenced by a report from the nation's *corporate purchasing man*agers that the expansion in the manufacturing sector slowed in December, while prices rose to the highest level since 1980.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

	MARK	STERLING	YEN	SFr	FFr
MARK	—	0.4110/13	64.72/75	0.8441/44	3.4495/00
STERLING	2.4318/28	—	157.49/61	2.0524/48	8.3853/88
YEN	1.5442/56	0.6348/54	—	1.3035/51	5.3256/32
SFr	1.1868/51	0.4867/72	76.64/6N	—	4.0826/95
FFr	0.2897/00	0.1191/93	18.74/7N	0.2445/49	—

Prices from 23:00 local time

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Name	Price	chg
NEW YORK		
AMP Inc	71.625	-0.875
AMR Corp	54.875	+1.625
ASA	43.75	-1.125
Abbott Labs	32.75	+0.125
Acme Cleveland	10.5	+0
Advanced Micro	25	+0.125
Aetna Life	47.125	+0
Affiliated Publ	8.5	+0
Aflac	32	+0
Ahmanson (HF)	16.375	+0.25
Air Prods	44.875	+0.25
Alberto-Culv B	27	-0.25
Albertson's	28.75	-0.25
Alcan Aluminum	25.125	-0.25
Alco Standard	62.5	-0.25
Alex & Alex	19.125	+0.625
Allegheny Power	21.75	+0
Allied Signal	33.875	-0.125
Alcoa	85	-1.625
Amax	27.75	-0.625
Amdahl Corp	11	+0
Amerada Hess	44.75	-0.875
Amer Brands	37.375	-0.125
Amer Cyanamid	-	-
Amer El Power	32.75	-0.125
Amer Express	29.125	-0.375
Amer Genl Corp	28	-0.25
Amer Greeting	26.9375	-0.0625
Amer Home Pr	62.75	+1
Amer Int'l	97.75	-0.25
Amer Natl Ins	46.25	-0.75
Amer Stores	26.25	-0.625
Amer T & T	50	-0.25
Ameritech	40.375	+0
Ametek Inc	18.625	-0.25
Amoco	59.125	+0
Analog Devices	33.25	-1.875
Anheuser-Busch	51	+0.125
Aon Corp	32	+0
Apple Computer	38.4375	-0.5625
Archer Daniels	20.125	-0.5
Arkla	-	-
Armco	6.25	-0.375
Armstrong World	38.75	+0.25
Asarco	28	-0.5
Ashland Oil	34.25	-0.25
AST Research	14.375	-0.25
Atlantic Rchfld	102.75	+1
Auto Data Pro	58.25	-0.25
Autodesk	37.25	-2.375
Avery Dennison	34.75	-0.75
Avnet Inc	36.25	-0.75
Avon Products	60.25	+0.5
Bairnco Corp	4	-0.125
Baker Hughes	18	-0.25
Ball Corp	32.25	+0.75
Bally	6.125	+0
Baltimore Gas	22	-0.125
Banc One Corp	25.75	+0.375
Bandag	60.75	+0.25
BankAmerica	40.25	-0.25
Bank of Boston	26	+0.125
Bank of New Yk	29.375	-0.375
Bankers Trst NY	57.25	+1.875
Barnett Banks	38	+0.5
Battle Mount Gd	10.5	-0.5
Bausch & Lomb	34.25	+0.375
Baxter Intl	28	-0.25
Becton Dickinson	48.125	+0.125
Bell Atlantic	50.25	+0.5
Bell Industries	20.5	+0.125
BellSouth	54.25	+0.125
HA Belo Corp	58.375	-0.125
Beneficial Corp	38.875	-0.125
Bethlehem Steel	18	+0
Beverly Enprs	14.375	+0
Black & Decker	23.5	-0.25
Boeing	46.75	-0.25
Boise Cascade	26.875	+0.125
Borden Inc	12.5	+0.25
Bowater Inc	26.875	+0.25
Briggs & Strtn	32.5	-0.25
Brist Myrs Sqb	58.125	+0.25
Brit Airws ADR	57.625	+1
BP ADR	79.75	-0.125
Brit Steel ADR	24.375	+0.125
Brit Telecom	60.5	+0.375
Broadway Stores	7.25	-0.125
Brooklyn Union	22	-0.25
Brown Group	31.75	-0.25
Brown & Sharpe	6.625	+0
Browning Ferris	27.75	-0.625
Brunswick	18.875	+0
Burlington Nthn	48.875	+0.75
CBI Inds	25.5	-0.125
CBS Inc	55	+0.75
CMS Energy Corp	22.75	-0.125
CPC Intern	53.125	-0.125
CSX Corporation	70.875	+1.25
Cabot Corp	28.125	-0.25
Campbell Soup	44.25	+0.25
Capital Cit ABC	85.125	-0.125
Carolina Pwr Lt	26.875	+0.25
Carpenter Tech	55.5	-0.5
Caterpillar	56	-0.125
Centerior Energy	8.875	+0
Centex Corp	22.75	+0
Central & SW	22.625	+0
Ceridian	26.75	-0.125
Champion Intl	36.875	+0.375
Chrmg Shoppes	6.375	-0.25
Chase Manhattan	34.625	+0.25
Chemical Bkg	36.375	+0.5
Chevron Corp	44.625	+0
Cheyenne Software	13.625	-0.125
Chiquita Brands	13.25	-0.375
Chrysler	48.875	-0.125
Chubb Corp	78.5	-0.875
Citicorp	41.375	+0
Clark Equipment	53.5	-0.75
Clevld Cliffs	38.5	-0.5
Clorox	58.5	-0.375
Coastal Corp	25.5	-0.25
Coca Cola	51.625	+0.125
Coca Cola Ent	18	+0
Colgate Palmolv	62.75	-0.625
Comcast Corp A	15.3125	-0.375
Compaq	39.25	-0.25
Computer Ass Int	47.375	-1.125
Computer Sci	50.375	-0.625
Conagra	30.875	-0.375
Cons Edison	25.75	+0
Cons Freightways	21.75	-0.625
Cons Nat Gas	35.875	+0.875
Cons Rail	52	+1.5
Contl Corp	19	+0
Cooper Inds	34.75	+0.75
Coors (Adolph)	16.75	+0
Corning Inc	28.5	-0.375
Crane	26.5	-0.375
Cray Research	15.875	+0.25
Crown Cork Seal	38.5	+0.75
Cummins Engine	45.375	+0.125
Curtiss-Wright	36.375	0
Cypress Semicon	22	-1.125
Cyprus Mineral	25.25	-0.875
DSC Commun	35.875	+0
DQE	29.625	+0
Dana Corp	22.375	-0.125
Data General	9.875	-0.125
Dayton Hudson	70.125	-0.625
De Beers	23.125	-0.25
Deere	66.375	+0.125
Delta Pwr & L	18.25	+0.125
Delta Air Lines	51.25	+0.75
Deluxe Corp	26.5	+0.125
Detroit Edison	28	-0.125
Dial Corp Del	21.875	+0.625
Diebold Inc	40.5	-0.625
Digital Equip	32.875	-0.375
Dillard Dep St	26.5	-1.25
Disney (Walt)	46.5	+0.625
Dominion Res	36.375	+0.375
Donnelley (RR)	29.125	-0.375
Dover Corp	52.5	+0.875
Dow Chemicals	68.25	-1
Dow Jones	31.375	+0.375
Dresser	19	+0.125
Duke Power	38.125	+0
Dun & Bradst	54.625	-0.375
Du Pont	58.25	+0.125
E G & G Corp	14.625	+0.5
E-Systems	40.875	-0.75
Eastern Ents	26.25	+0
Eastman Kodak	48.5	+0.75
Eaton Corp	49.875	-0.625
Echlin Inc	30.25	+0.25
Emerson Elec	62.125	-0.25
Engelhard Corp	23	+0.875
Enron Corp	30.125	-0.375
Ensearch Corp	12.875	-0.25
Entergy Corp	22.375	+0.5
Ethyl Corp	9.625	+0
Exxon	60.625	-0.125
FMC Corp	57.875	+0.125
FPL Group	34.875	-0.25
Fedders Corp	7	-0.125
Federal Express	60.25	+0
Federal Mogul	20.125	+0
Fed Nat Mtge	72.625	-0.25
Federal Ppr Bd	28.375	-0.625
Fieldcrest Can	24.875	-0.625
First Bank Sys	33.625	+0.4375
First Chicago	47.125	-0.625
Fst Fid Bcorp	45.125	+0.25
First Intrst	68.625	+1
Fst Mississipp	24.5	-0.5
Fst Union Rlty	6.75	+0.125
Fleet Fin Grp	32.5	+0.125
Fleetwd Enterp	18.375	-0.375
Fleming Cos Ok	23.5	+0.25
Florida Prog	29.875	-0.125
Fluor Corp	43.125	+0
Food Lion Inc	5.125	+0
Ford Motor	27.75	-0.125
Foster Wheeler	30	+0.25
Freeport McMor	17.5	-0.25
GATX Corp	43	-1
Geico Corp	49.125	+0.125
GTE Corp	30.375	+0
Gannett	52.5	-0.75
Gap Inc Del	30.125	-0.375
Gencorp	11.75	-0.125
Gen Am Invest	19	+0
Gen Dynamics	43.25	-0.25
Gen Electric	50.875	-0.125
Gen Mills	56.75	-0.375
Gen Motors	41.75	-0.375
Gen Motors E	38.5	+0.125
Gen Motors H	36	+0.125
Gen Public Util	26.375	+0.125
Gen Reinsurance	122.125	-0.375
Gen Signal	32	+0.125
Genuine Parts	35.75	-0.25
Georgia Pac	72.625	+1.125
Gerber Prodcts	-	-
Gillette	74.75	-0.125
Glaxo ADR	20.75	+0.375
Golden W Finl	35.625	+0.375
Goodrich (BF)	43.625	+0.25
Goodyear Tire	33.75	+0.125
Grace (W&R)	39.375	+0.75
Grainger (WW)	56.375	-1.375
Gt Atl Pac Tea	18.125	+0
Gt Western Finl	16	+0
Grow Group	14.25	+0.25
Halliburton	33.375	+0.25
Hanna (MA)	24.25	+0.5
Harcourt	35	-0.25
Harley Davidson	27.25	-0.75
Harnischfeger	27.75	-0.375
Harris Corp	41.75	-0.75
Harsco Corp	40.375	-0.5
Hartmarx	6	+0.125
Hasbro	28.75	-0.375
Hecla Mining	9.75	-0.375
Heinz (HJ)	36.875	+0.125
Hmrch & Payne	25.625	+0
Hercules	115.25	-0.125
Hershey Foods	48	+0.625
Hewlett Packard	98.5	-1.375
Hilton Hotels	67	-1
Home Depot	45.25	-0.75
Homestake	18.5	-0.625
Honeywell	31.125	-0.375
Hormel (Geo)	24.5	-0.25
Household Intl	36.875	-0.25
Houston Inds	35.375	-0.25
Humana	22.625	+0
IBM	73.625	+0.125
Illinova Corp	21.625	-0.21875
Illinois Tool	43.125	-0.625
INCO	28.25	-0.375
Ingersoll Rand	31.5	+0
Inland Steel	34.25	-0.875
Intel Corp	63.8125	-0.0625
Intergraph	8.75	+0.625
Interlake	1.875	+0.125
Intl Frnly ErdB	12.5	-0.125
Intl Flav & Fr	48	-0.25
Intl Multifoods	18.75	+0.5
Intl Coltn Enrgy	8.875	+0
Intl Paper	78.125	-0.25
Interpublic	32.125	+0
ITT Corp	87.375	-1.25
James River Bo	20.625	+0.375
Jefferson Pilot	52	+0.125
Johnson & J	54.375	-0.375
K Mart	13	+0
Kellogg	58	-0.125
Kennametal	24	-0.5
Kerr-McGee	48.625	+0.375
KeyCorp	25.125	+0.125
Kimberly-Clark	51	+0.625
King World Prod	34.375	-0.125
Knight Ridder	51.125	+0.625
Kroger	24.125	+0
LSI Logic	39.5	-1.875
Leggett & Platt	34.5	-0.5
Leucadia Natl	44.625	+0.125
Lilly (Eli)	65.125	-0.5
Limited Inc	17.5	-0.625
LIN Broadcasting	133.375	-0.125
Lincoln Nat	35.5	+0.5
Liton	37	+0
Liz Claiborne	17.25	+0.25
Lockheed Corp	72.125	-0.5
Loews Corp	87.875	+1
Lone Star	17.25	-0.25
Long Island Lt	15.375	+0
Longs Drug Strs	32.125	+0.875
Loral Corp	38.875	-1
Lotus Dev Corp	40	-1.25
Louisiana Land	37.25	+0.875
Louisiana Pacif	28.125	+0.875
Lowe's Co Inc	34.125	-0.625
Lubrizol	33.375	-0.5
MA Comm Inc	7.5	+0.25
MCI Commun	18.5	+0.125
Manor Care	27.75	+0.375
Manville Corp	9.25	+0.25
Mapco Inc	51.875	+0.625
Marion Merrell	21.25	+0.875
Marriott	28.375	+0.25
Marsh & McLn	79.125	-0.125
Martin Marietta	183	+0
Marvel	13.625	-0.625
Masco Corp	23.75	+1.125
Massmutual Corp	30.75	-0.375
Mattel Inc	25.25	+0.125
Maxus Energy	3.375	+0
May Dept St	33.25	-0.5
Maytag Corp	15.125	+0.125
McDermott	24.75	+0
McDonalds	29	-0.25
McDonnell Dglas	142.75	+0.75
McGraw Hill	66.75	-0.125
McKesson Corp	33	+0.375
Mead Corp	49.125	+0.5
Medtronic	53.875	-1.75
Mellon Bk	31.375	+0.75
Melville Corp	31.25	+0.375
Mentor Graphics	14.625	-0.625
Mercantile Strs	39.75	+0.25
Merck Inc	38.375	+0.25
Meredith Corp	48.125	-0.5
Merrill Lynch	35.625	-0.125
Microsoft Corp	60.25	-0.875
Millipore	47.375	-1
Mine Safety App	43	-2
Minnesota Mine	53.75	+0.375
Mitchell Energy	17	-1.75
Mobil Corp	84.125	-0.125
Molex Inc	30.75	-0.25
Monarch Machs	9.875	-0.125
Monsanto	70	-0.5
Morgan (JP)	56.625	+0.5
Morrison-Knudsen	12.875	+0.125
Morton Intl	28.875	+0.375
Motorola Inc	58.875	-1.125
Multimedia Inc	28.25	-0.25
Murphy Oil	42.25	-0.25
Nacco Inds	48.125	-0.25
Nalco Chemical	33.75	+0.25
Nashua Corp	20.875	+0.375
Natl City Corp	25.5	-0.375
Natl Intergrp	-	-
Natl Medcl Ent	14.625	+0.5
Natl Semi	18.125	-0.375
Natl Serv Ind	25.375	-0.25
NatWest Bank	47.625	-0.375
Navistar Int	16	+0.875
NBD Bancorp	27.5	+0.125
Network Systems	7	+0
Neutrogena Corp	-	-
New England El	31.875	-0.25
News Corp	15.375	-0.25
NY State El Gas	19.125	+0.125
NY Times A	21.875	-0.25
Newmont Mining	35.25	-0.75
Niag Mohawk	14.125	-0.125
Nicor Inc	22.875	+0.125
Nike Inc	72	-2.625
NL Industries	12.125	-0.5
Noble Affil	24.625	-0.125
Nordstrom	41	-1
Norfolk Southrn	61.625	+1
Northeast Util	21.625	+0
Nthn State Pwr	44.125	+0.125
Northrop	42	+0
Norwest Corp	23.25	-0.125
Nynex Corp	36.875	+0.125
Occidental Pet	19.5	+0.25
Ogden Corp	15.375	0
Ohio Casualty	28.25	+0
Ohio Edison	18.875	-0.375
Olin Corp	51.75	+0.25
Omnicom Group	51.25	-0.5
Oneok Inc	17.875	-0.125
Oracle Systems	43	-1.125
Oryx Energy Co	11.75	-0.125
Oshkosh B'gosh	13.75	-0.25
Outboard Marine	20.375	+0.75
Overseas Ship	22.625	-0.375
Owens Corning	31.5	-0.375
PHH Group	34.375	-0.375
PNC Financial	21.75	+0.625
PPG Industries	37.375	+0.25
PSI Hldgs	-	-
Paccar Inc	44.125	-0.125
Pacificorp	18.125	+0
Pac Enterprises	21.375	+0.125
Pac Gas & Elect	24.5	+0.125
Pac Telesis	28.375	-0.125
Pall Corp	19	+0.25
Penn Eastern	19.875	+0.125
Parker Drilling	4.625	-0.125
Parker Hannifin	45.25	-0.25
Penney(JC)	44.125	-0.5
Penney Pwr Lt	19.5	+0.5
Pennzoil	44	-0.125
People's Energy	26.75	+0.625
Pepsico	35.875	-0.375
Perkin Elmer	28.125	+0.5
Petrie Stores	22.375	+0
Pfizer	76.375	-0.875
Phelps Dodge	60.25	-1.625
Philadel Elec	24.5	+0
Phillip Morris	57.75	+0.25
Phillips Pet	32.625	+0.125
Pioneer Hi Bred	34.375	-0.125
Pitney Bowes	31.25	-0.5
Policy Mgt Sys	41.5	-0.5
Potlatch Corp	33.75	-0.25
Potomac El Pwr	18.625	+0.25
Procter & Gamble	62	+0
Pub Svc Enterpr	26.5	+0
Puget Snd Pwr	20.125	+0
Quaker Oats	31.25	+0.5
Quanex Corp	22.375	-0.5
RJR Nabisco	5.5	+0
Ralston Purina	44.5	-0.125
Rank Organsn ADR	12.875	+0.125
Raychem Corp	35.125	-0.5
Raytheon	63.375	-0.125
Reebok Intl	38.75	-0.75
Reynolds Rayn A	23.875	-1.125
Reynolds Metals	49.125	+0.125
Rite Aid Corp	23.25	-0.125
Roadway Services	58.125	-0.625
Rockwell Intl	35.25	-0.5
Rohm & Haas	56.375	-0.75
Rohr Industries	10.375	+0
Rouse	18.875	-0.375
Rowan	6.25	+0
Royal Dutch	108.125	+0.375
Rubbermaid	28.5	-0.25
Ruddick	18.875	-0.25
Russell Corp	31	-0.375
Ryder System	22.5	+0.5
Rymer Co	3	-0.25
SPS Technology	26.5	+0.125
Safeco Corp	51.5	-0.5
Safety-Kleen	15	+0.25
St Paul's Cos	44.125	-0.625
Salomon Inc	38.125	+0.625
San Diego Gas	19.25	+0
Santa Fe S Pacf	17.375	-0.125
Sara Lee Corp	25.625	+0.375
Scecorp	14.625	+0
Schering Plough	73.75	-0.25
Schlumberger	51	+0.625
Scientif Atlanta	19.875	-1.125
Scott Paper	68.75	-0.375
Scripps	28.875	-0.375
Seagate Tech	-	-
Seagram	29.5	+0
Sears Roebuck	47.25	+1.25
Service Corp I	25.75	-1
Service Master	23.75	-0.625
Shared Medical	31.75	-1
Shell Trans	65	-0.375
Sherwin Wlms	32.75	-0.625
Shoney's Inc	12.875	+0.125
Sigma Aldrich	32.5	-0.5
Silicon Graphics	29.75	-1.40625
Skyline Corp	18.875	+0.125
Smith Intl	12.5	+0.15625
SmKline Bchm A	35.875	+0.125
Snap-On-Tools	33.5	+0.25
Sonat	27.75	-0.25
Sonoco Prods	21.5	-0.375
Sony Corp ADR	55.875	-0.25
Southdown	15	+0.5
Southern Co	19.875	-0.125
Sth N. Eng Tel	32.75	+0.375
Southw Airlines	17.625	+0.875
Southwestn Bell	40.5	+0.125
Sprung Inds	37.5	+0.5
Sprint Corp	27.25	-0.875
Stand Brnds Pnt	0.34375	-0.03125
Standard Prods	23.625	-0.375
Stanley Works	36	+0.25
Storage Technol	28.375	-0.625
Stratus Comp	37.125	-0.875
Sun America	7.625	-0.25
Sun Company	28.625	-0.125
Sundstrand	44.75	-0.75
Sun Microsystms	35.375	-0.125
Suntrust	48.375	+0.625
Supervalu	24	-0.375
Syntex Corp	-	-
Sysco Corp	25.875	+0.125
TJX Cos Inc	15.75	+0.125
TRW Inc	65.5	-0.5
Tambrands	39.25	+0.625
Tandem Comp	17	-0.125
Tandy Corp	50.625	+0.625
Telecom Corp	21.75	+0
Teledyne	20.125	+0
Temple Inland	46.125	+1
Tenneco	42.875	+0.375
Tesoro Pet	9.25	+0
Texaco	60.5	+0.625
Texas Instrmts	73.5	-1.375
Texas Utilities	32.25	-0.25
Textron	49.375	-1
Thiokol	27.875	+0
Thomas & Betts	67.375	+0.25
Time Warner	35.25	+0.125
Times-Mirror	31.625	+0.25
Timken	34.375	-0.875
Torchmark	34.875	+0
Tosco Corp	28.375	-0.75
Total Pet N Am	12.25	-0.25
Toys R Us	30.5	-0.125
Transamerica	50	+0.25
Transco Energy	16.5	-0.125
Tribune	54.25	-0.5
TRINOVA Corp	28.75	-0.625
Triton Energy	33.875	-0.125
TSX Corp	18	-0.875
Tyco Labs	47	-0.5
Tyler	3.25	+0
UAL Corp	89.5	+2.125
USG Corp	19.5	+0
UST Inc	27.875	+0
USX Marathon	16.5	+0.125
USX-US Steel	35.5	+0
Unicom Corp	24.375	+0.375
Unilever NV	72.875	0
Union Camp	48.375	+1.25
Union Carbide	28.375	-1
Union Electric	35.5	+0.125
Union Pacific	48.75	+1.375
Unisys Corp	8.75	+0.125
USAIR Group	4.5	-0.25
USF&G Corp	13.625	+0.125
US Home	15.625	-0.5
US Life	34.75	-0.125
US Shoe	18.625	-0.125
US Surgical	18.75	-0.25
US Trust	63.5	-0.25
US West	35.75	+0.125
United Tech	62.75	-0.125
Unocal Corp	27.5	+0.25
Upjohn	31.25	-0.5
VF Corp	48.875	-0.25
Valero Energy	17	-0.125
Viacom Inc	41.375	-0.25
Vulcan Materials	51	+0.375
Wachovia	32.375	+0.125
Walgreen	45	+1.375
Wal-Mart Stores	20.625	-0.625
Warner-Lambert	78.5	-0.5
Wash Gas Light	33	-0.5
Washington Post	241.25	-1.25
Waste Mgmt Inc	26	-0.125
Watkins-Johnson	30.375	+0.625
Weis Markets	24.25	+0.125
Wells Fargo	146.375	+1.375
Wendy's Intl	14.5	+0.125
Western Publ	8.5	+0
Westinghouse El	12.625	+0.375
Westvaco	39.25	+0
Weyerhaeuser	38.875	+1.375
Whirlpool	50.125	-0.125
Whitman	18.5	-0.75
Willamette Ind	47	-0.5
Winn Dixie Stos	52.125	+0.75
Woolworth	15.625	+0.625
Worthington Ind	19.75	-0.25
Wrigley	48.625	-0.75
Xerox	97	-2
Yellow Frieght	23.125	-0.75
Zenith Electron	11.625	+0
Zero Co	13.875	-0.125
LONDON		
Allied - Lyons	536	-7
BAT Inds	438	+2.5
BP	427.5	+0
BT	376.5	+0.5
BTR	293.5	-0.5
Barclays	612	+0.5
Bass	516	+2.5
Boots	497	-6
British Airways	363	+5
British Gas	318.5	+2
Cable & Wire	376	-0.1875
General Electric	273.5	-1.625
Grand Met	408	-14
Glaxo	-	-
Guiness	449	-2
HSBC (75p shs)	692	-13.5
Hanson	233	+2.25
ICI	754	+6
Land Securities	606.5	+0
Lloyds Bank	583	+8.5
Marks & Spencer	398	-3
NatWest Bank	511	-4
Prudential	313	-4
Reuters	468	-2.5
Sainsbury	412	+0.5
Shell Transport	695.5	-1.875
Unilever	-	-
Wellcome	700	+0.5
PARIS		
Accor	563	+3
Air Liquide	720	+6
Alcatel Alsthom	457.2	+1.2
BSN	746	-1
BNP Cert Inv	-	-
Canal	871	+18
Carrefour	2250	+38
Chargeurs	1134	-32
Club Med	445	-2
Cred Lyon (CI)	439.9	-2.1
Elf Aquitaine	375	-0.8
Euro Disney	11.45	+0.3
Eurotunnel	138	+11.6
Hachette	115.1	-1.3
LVMH	850	+7
Lafarge Coppee	378.1	-1.9
Lyonn Eaux	481	-6
Michelin B	193	-1.3
Moulinex	100	-0.5
Paribas	353.3	-1.7
Pernod Ricard	310.1	-2.4
Peugeot	734	+2
Rhone Poulenc Cs	135	+3.8
Saint Gobain	621	+7
Suez (Fin de)	378.7	-3.3
Total B	315.5	+5.3
FRANKFURT		
Allianz AG	1710	-30
BASF	314.6	+0.4
Bayer	357.8	-0.2
Commerzbank	-	-
Daimler-Benz	754.6	-3.5
Deutsche Bank	715	+3.2
Dresdner Bk	401	-0.5
Hoechst	327	-0.2
Lufthansa	190.5	+0
Mannesmann	419.8	+0.5
Mercedes Hld	-	-
Metallgesellschaft	143	+0
Porsche	698	-9
Siemens	644.3	+2.3
Volkswagen	417	+2

Commstock Trading Ltd.

Roses to Penn State

Nebraska takes nat'l championship

PASADENA – Ki-Jana Carter rushed for three touchdowns, including two in a 1:52 span in the third quarter as undefeated Penn State broke open a close game and beat Oregon 38-20 in the Rose Bowl on Monday.

Penn State (12-0) completed its fifth undefeated and untied season under head coach Joe Paterno to finish as runnerup to Nebraska as the top college team in the country.

No. 1 Nebraska grabbed the championship by beating Miami 24-17 in the Orange Bowl on Sunday night.

The Nittany Lions also went undefeated in 1968, 1969 and 1973 without winning national championships.

Paterno became college football's all-time winningest bowl coach with his 16th victory, breaking the record of Alabama's Bear Bryant. Paterno also became the first coach to win all four of the traditional major bowl games (Rose, Sugar, Orange and Cotton).

Penn State has won 17 straight games, the longest current streak in the nation.

"We came very close to beating them," Oregon quarterback Danny O'Neil said. "We just didn't make the big plays. Our defense did shut them down for the most part. I think they only had one drive. But we gave them turnovers. We gave them a lot of opportunities."

Oregon quarterback Danny O'Neil shared most valuable player honors with Penn State's a Carter.

He completed 41 of 61 passes for 456 yards, breaking the records set by Wisconsin's Ron VanderKelen, who completed 33 of 48 for 401 yards against Southern Cal in 1963. VanderKelen also left the field a loser, a 23-point fourth quarter rally falling short as the Badgers fell to top-ranked USC 42-37.

Fiesta Bowl

Colorado 41, Notre Dame 24

Kordell Stewart racked up 348 yards total offense and Rashaan Salaam rushed for three touchdowns as No. 3 Colorado sent out coach Bill McCartney a winner in Tempe, Arizona.

Salaam, the 1994 Heisman Trophy winner, carried 27 times for a season-low 83 yards, lifting his season total to 2,088 yards. He announced after the game that he was leaving school early to enter the National Football League draft, where he is sure to be a high pick.

McCartney, who announced his resignation in November, compiled a 93-55-5 record in 13 seasons at Colorado and guided the Buffaloes to a share of the national championship following the 1990 season.

Stewart had two touchdowns, and Salaam had two 1-yard scores as the Buffaloes (11-1) scored on five of their first six possessions for a 31-3 lead late in the first half. Only a 24-7 loss to Nebraska on October 29 prevented Colorado from a perfect and perhaps championship season.

Notre Dame's Ron Powlus, sacked a Fiesta Bowl-record three times by tackle Shannon Clavelle, threw three TD passes for the Irish (6-5-1) as coach Lou Holtz was denied his 200th career win.

Sugar Bowl

Florida State 23, Florida 17

Danny Kanell threw for 252 yards and a touchdown and Dan Mowrey kicked three field goals, leading No. 4 Florida State to a win in New Orleans.

Star linebacker Derrick Brooks intercepted Danny Wuerffel with 1:32 left to seal the win for Florida State, which has won 10 straight bowl games and is unbeaten in the last 13 under coach Bobby Bowden.

Citrus Bowl

Alabama 24, Ohio State 17

Tailback Sherman Williams raced 50 yards with a screen pass with 43 seconds to play, lifting No. 5 Alabama to a come-from-behind victory in Orlando, Florida.

The Crimson Tide knocked away two desperation end-zone bombs from Buckeyes quarterback Bobby Hoying to finish 12-1, with their only loss coming by one point to Florida in the Southeastern Conference championship game.

The touchdown capped a fantastic day for Williams, who rushed 27 times for 166 yards and a second-quarter touchdown and also amassed 155 yards on eight receptions.

Hoying threw two TDS in the second quarter to Joey Galloway to give Ohio State a 14-7 lead.

The Alabama seniors became the most successful class in school history, improving their four-year mark to 45-5-1 with a national title in 1992.

Cotton Bowl

Southern California 55, Texas Tech 14

Rob Johnson threw three of his four touchdowns to Keyshawn Johnson as Southern California rolled to a record-setting rout in Dallas.

USC's 55 points broke the Cotton Bowl record of 46 scored by Miami against Texas in 1991.

In an early game on Monday, Wisconsin beat Duke 34-20 in the Hall of Fame Bowl in Tampa. (Reuter, AP)

AP Top 25

1. Nebraska (13-0)
2. Penn State (12-0)
3. Colorado (11-1)
4. Florida State (10-1-1)
5. Alabama (12-1)
6. Miami (10-2)
7. Florida (10-2-1)
8. Texas A&M (10-0-1)
9. Auburn (9-1-1)
10. Utah (10-2).

Oregon was 11th, followed by Michigan, Southern Cal, Ohio State, Virginia, Colorado State, North Carolina State, Brigham Young, Kansas State, Arizona, Washington State, Tennessee, Boston College, Mississippi State and Texas.

National College Football Champions

1936 – Minnesota	1956 – Oklahoma	1976 – Pittsburgh
1937 – Pittsburgh	1957 – Auburn	1977 – Notre Dame
1938 – Texas Christian	1958 – Louisiana State	1978 – Alabama
1939 – Texas A&M	1959 – Syracuse	1979 – Alabama
1940 – Minnesota	1960 – Minnesota	1980 – Georgia
1941 – Minnesota	1961 – Alabama	1981 – Clemson
1942 – Ohio State	1962 – Southern Cal	1982 – Penn State
1943 – Notre Dame	1963 – Texas	1983 – Miami
1944 – Army	1964 – Alabama	1984 – Brigham Young
1945 – Army	1965 – Alabama	1985 – Oklahoma
1946 – Notre Dame	1966 – Notre Dame	1986 – Penn State
1947 – Notre Dame	1967 – Southern Cal	1987 – Miami
1948 – Michigan	1968 – Ohio State	1988 – Notre Dame
1949 – Notre Dame	1969 – Texas	1989 – Miami
1950 – Oklahoma	1970 – Nebraska	1990 – Colorado
1951 – Tennessee	1971 – Nebraska	1991 – Miami
1952 – Michigan State	1972 – Southern Cal	1992 – Alabama
1953 – Maryland	1973 – Notre Dame	1993 – Florida State
1954 – Ohio State	1974 – Oklahoma	1994 – Nebraska
1955 – Oklahoma	1975 – Oklahoma	

The Empire strikes back

SYDNEY (Reuter) – England all-rounder Darren Gough has breathed new life into the Ashes series, following up his bravura batting performance on Monday with six wickets yesterday to leave Australia reeling in the third Test.

Gough produced the best spell of his brief Test career as Australia collapsed for 116 in its first innings at the Sydney Cricket Ground to put the tourists in sight of an improbable victory.

England, leading by 193 on first innings, was 90 for one in its second innings when rain ended play thirty minutes before the rescheduled close on the third day.

That gave the tourists, who must win this and the next two Tests to regain the Ashes, a commanding lead of 283 with nine wickets in hand and two days remaining.

Gough, whose belligerent 51 with the bat helped England reach 309 in its first innings on Monday, roused his side again with his aggression and fierce competitiveness in taking six for 49.

The Yorkshire bowler, who made his debut against New Zealand last July, typified an unexpected England rejuvenation following dismal defeats in the first two Tests.

Devon Malcolm responded to the example set by his new ball partner to take two early wickets. Seamer Angus Fraser completed the carnage with a two-wicket haul.

Australia, resuming on four for no wicket, lost all 10 wickets in little more than three hours, narrowly avoiding the follow-on.

Opener and captain Mark Taylor made a gritty 49 to take his side past the target of 110 and make England bat again.

His opposite number Michael Atherton built on the advantage carved out by his bowlers to finish the day on 32 in partnership with Graeme Hick, who was not out 22.

On a day twice interrupted by rain, Australia's only breakthrough came when pace bowler Damien Fleming trapped opener Graham Gooch lbw with his score on 29.

The tone for the day was set early on when Malcolm flattened Michael Slater's stumps to dismiss the opener for 11 with the total on 12.

That gave the Jamaican-born fast bowler his 100th test wicket in his 30th match.

Within an hour, Australia was 38 for four after Malcolm dismissed Mark Waugh, Gough removed David Boon and Fraser accounted for Michael Bevan.

Gough, now in full cry and cheered on by a band of England supporters in the crowd, added to his haul by removing Steve Waugh, wicketkeeper Ian Healy and Tim May before luring Taylor into mistiming a slower ball to give a simple return catch.

Taylor and fast bowler Craig McDermott, who remained unbeaten on 21, added 51 vital runs for the ninth wicket to guide their side to safety after coming together with the total on 65 for eight.

Opener Slater was the only other Australian to reach double figures.

Fittingly, Gough wrapped up the innings by bowling Damien Fleming first ball, giving the 24-year-old an opportunity to take a hat-trick when Australia bats again.



TOUGH STUFF – England's Darren Gough. (AP)

"This is my first five-wicket haul and it's a great feeling to get on the honors board for Test cricket," Gough said afterwards.

Gough said Harold Larwood, the scourge of Australian batsmen during the infamous "Bodyline" series in 1932-33, phoned the dressing room to congratulate his compatriot.

"I went to visit Harold before last month and he called to congratulate me. It was great to hear from him," said Gough, playing his seventh Test match.

"There are two days and if we can get runs on the board tomorrow we could knock them over again. We believe we can do it," added Gough, who has taken 19 wickets in the series.

Taylor remained optimistic of his side's ability to turn the match back in its favor.

"We had a bad day and we've not had too may of those lately but the best way to defend is to attack and I'd like to think we can bowl them out," he said.

England, 1st innings 309
Australia, 1st innings

M.Slater b Malcolm	11
M.Taylor c and b Gough	49
D.Boon b Gough	3
M.Waugh c Rhodes b Malcolm	3
M.Bevan c Thorpe b Fraser	8
S.Waugh b Gough	1
I.Healy c Hick b Gough	10
S.Warne c Gatting b Fraser	0
T.May c Hick b Gough	0
C.McDermott not out	21
D.Fleming b Gough	0
Extras (6b, 1lb, 3nb)	10
Total:	116

Fall of wickets: 12, 15, 18, 38, 39, 57, 62, 65, 116, 116.
Bowling: Devon Malcolm 13-4-34-2 (1nb), Darren Gough 18.5-4-49-6, Angus Fraser 11-1-26-2 (2nb).
Batting time: 211 minutes. Overs: 42.5.

England, 2nd innings

G.Gooch lbw Fleming	29
M.Atherton not out	32
G.Hick not out	22
Extras (4lb, 2nb, 1w)	7
TOTAL:	90

Fall of wicket: 54.
Batting time: 118 minutes. Overs: 26.3.
Bowling: Craig McDermott 12-2-37-0 (2nb), Damien Fleming 11-2-41-1 (1w), Mark Waugh 2-1-4-0, Shane Warne 1.3-0-4-0.

Man Utd beats Coventry, 2-0

LONDON (Reuter) – Frenchman Eric Cantona set up the opening goal with a fine pass and scored the second on a penalty as champions Manchester United beat struggling Coventry 2-0 in the Premier League yesterday.

The victory at their Old Trafford home moved United back to within three points of leaders Blackburn, though they have played one game more.

Coventry, sparked by former United striker Dion Dublin, had chances in the early going but after 20 minutes, United began to take control.

Cantona set up the first goal in the 30th minute with a superb through pass to Keith Gillespie on the right wing. His cross set up a shot by Nicky Butt which Steve Ogrizovic in the Coventry goal blocked, but Scholes was on the spot to fire the rebound home.

The second came four minutes into the second half. Coventry defender Steve Pressley gave the ball away to Scholes on the edge of the penalty area and put down the United striker in his efforts to retrieve it.

The referee not only awarded the penalty which Cantona coolly converted, but sent off Pressley as well to leave Coventry a man short for the last 40 minutes.

"It was important that we won and in the end we cantered to it," United captain Steve Bruce said. Meanwhile, the investigation into match-fixing allegations against Southampton goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar is expected to last for at least another month.

The English Football Association has charged Grobbelaar with taking bribes to fix matches, but is not expected to take any further action until the police investigation is complete.

Hapoel TA's 2nd half-collapse gives Treviso European Cup win

JOEL GORDIN

WHAT a pity there are two halves in a basketball game.

Hapoel Tel Aviv last night played splendidly in the first half of their European Cup game against Italy's Benetton Treviso to lead 47-40 at halftime. But, after the break the Israeli team simply disintegrated and scored only 35 to their opponents' 55.

The result: Hapoel lost 95-82 and has been mathematically eliminated from reaching the Final Four.

With a 1-4 record, the remaining games in the best-of-12 round will simply be formalities.

The evening at Ussishkin started with a "salute to Shimon Amsalem," honoring the club's former captain who, after nine years with the redshirts, transferred this season to Hapoel Haifa. After an impressive laser display, he was presented with a trophy for his years of effort at Ussishkin.

Inspired by the touching ceremony, Hapoel stormed into the attack and was very quickly 10 points ahead. Lior Arditti seemed to have waited the whole season for this performance, and he scored 18 points in the first half.

Hapoel neutralized Treviso's big guns, among them Macedonian playmaker Peter Namosky and former NBA star Orlando Woolridge. Buck Johnson also scored well, hitting 13 first-half points, although racking up three fouls.

Hapoel had a stirring 65 percent shooting success from two-point range (33% for the 3-pointers). Had the Israelis been able to better their 37% success record from the foul line, they would have been much further ahead at halftime than 47-40.

But, Tel Aviv simply collapsed in the second half. After five minutes, they had scored only six to their opponents' 17. For most of the half, Hapoel scored at an appalling average of one point per minute.

Coach Zvi Sherf could not find a playmaker to stand in for the unfortunate Gilad Katz, who was not up to scratch. Sherf tried young Meyer Tiporo, Milton Wagner and Zach Ya'ir, but to no avail.

For the visitors, Namosky was outstanding with 30 points (including four 3-pointers), Riccardo Fittis sank 15, Stefano Ruscani 14 and Woolridge 13. For Tel Aviv, Arditti finished with 23, Johnson 17 and Wagner 16.

Next week, Hapoel travels to Latvia for the return game against the only team they have beaten – SWH Broceni of Riga.

Richard Zaacks adds:

Tonight Hapoel Eilat battles Caceres, Spain in the Korac Cup final pool. The southerners inflicted the only loss that the Spanish club has suffered in the tournament, a 90-80 overtime win in Eilat.

The status of Willie Sims, who was ejected in Eilat's loss to Greece's Peristeri, is questionable. FIFA rules state that he should be barred from tonight's game, but the club has appealed the ban.

Eilat, at 2-2, is currently tied for second with Peristeri in Group D. They split with the Greeks (while holding the tiebreaker advantage), winning on the road and losing at home, and losing an away game to the Milanese.

The first two teams in each of the four groups advance to the quarterfinals.

NBA leaders through January 1

SCORING	G	FG	FT	Pts	Avg
Neal, Orl.	29	348	175	871	30.0
Robinson, SA	25	234	236	704	28.2
Jackson, Dall.	25	250	171	688	27.5
Olajuwon, Hou.	26	262	162	686	26.4
Mashburn, Dall.	25	234	143	645	25.8
Malone, Utah	28	270	158	705	25.2
Drexler, Port.	23	188	115	542	23.6
Ceballos, LAL	26	244	103	610	23.5
Richmond, Sac	27	228	128	630	23.3
Sprewell, GS.	27	215	144	613	22.7
Rice, Mia.	27	223	90	606	22.4
Hardaway, Orl.	28	224	138	619	22.1
Pippen, Chi.	27	213	117	585	21.7
Ewing, NY	26	209	129	549	21.1
C. Robinson, Port.	28	194	109	544	20.9
Wilkins, Bos.	24	185	91	500	20.8
Payton, Sea.	27	217	90	546	20.2
Rider, Minn.	25	179	108	503	20.1
Hardaway, GS	27	188	97	533	19.7
Hill, Det.	23	159	134	443	19.3

FIELD GOAL %	FG	FGA	Pct
Gatling, GS	110	159	.692
O'Neal, Orl.	348	580	.600
Polynice, Sac.	127	215	.591
D. Davis, Ind.	134	228	.588
Grant, Orl.	146	250	.584
Hornacek, Utah	177	312	.567
Conlon, Mil.	123	218	.564
Thorpe, Hou.	125	222	.563
Benjamin, NJ	144	258	.558
Perry, Phoe.	108	194	.557

REBOUNDING	G	Off	Def	Tot	Avg
Robinson, SA	25	70	233	303	12.1
Mutombo, Den.	27	98	229	325	12.0
Hill, Clev.	26	112	194	306	11.8
Wills, Atl.-Mia.	26	91	210	301	11.6
Olajuwon, Hou.	26	54	244	298	11.5
Jones, Dall.	25	108	172	280	11.2
Kemp, Sea.	27	106	185	291	10.8
O'Neal, Orl.	29	106	204	310	10.7
Dudley, Port.	26	108	168	276	10.6
D. Davis, Ind.	26	102	172	274	10.5

ASSISTS	G	No	Avg
Stockton, Utah	28	349	12.5
Anderson, NJ	30	326	10.9
Strickland, Port.	16	143	8.9
Hardaway, GS	27	236	8.8
Bogues, Char.	27	236	8.7
Richardson, LAC	29	245	8.4
Van Exel, LAL	25	206	8.2
Pack, Den.	26	214	8.2
Kidd, Dall.	25	202	8.1
Johnson, SA	25	201	8.0

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Orlando	23	6	.793	–
New York	15	12	.556	7
Boston	11	17	.393	11.5
New Jersey	12	19	.387	12
Philadelphia	10	18	.357	12.5
Miami	9	18	.333	13
Washington	7	19	.269	14.5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	20	8	.714	–
Indiana	17	9	.654	2
Charlotte	16	12	.571	4
Chicago	15	13	.536	5
Atlanta	12	17	.414	8.5
Detroit	9	17	.346	10
Milwaukee	9	18	.333	10.5

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Utah	19	8	.679	–
Houston	18	9	.667	.5
San Antonio	15	10	.600	2.5
Dallas	13	12	.520	4.5
Denver	14	13	.519	4.5
Minnesota	8	20	.231	12

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Phoenix	21	7	.750	–
Seattle	18	9	.667	2.5
L.A. Lakers	17	9	.654	3
Sacramento	15	12	.556	5.5
Portland	13	13	.500	7
Golden State	10	17	.370	10.5
L.A. Clippers	4	25	.138	17.5

NBA – No games scheduled Monday. League resumed last night.

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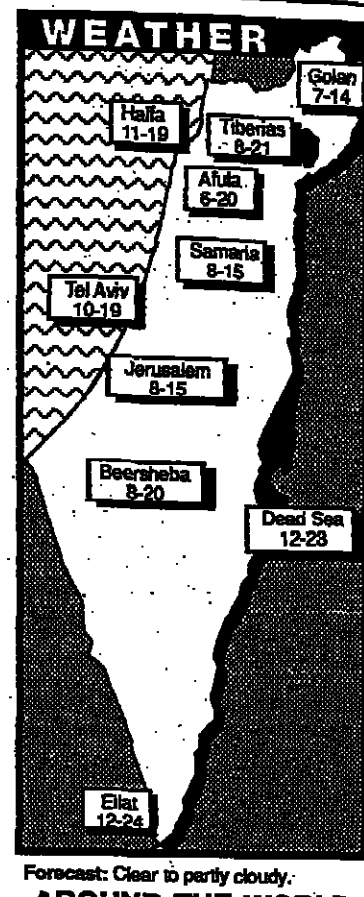
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כאן מן הארכיון

صورة من الاصل

WEATHER



Forecast: Clear to partly cloudy.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW C	LOW F	HIGH C	HIGH F	
Amsterdam	00	32	08	46	cloudy
Berlin	-04	25	00	32	clear
Buenos Aires	21	70	27	81	cloudy
Cairo	09	48	20	68	clear
Chicago	-03	27	17	63	cloudy
Copenhagen	-03	27	01	34	clear
Frankfurt	00	32	03	37	cloudy
Geneva	-01	31	-02	29	snow
Helsinki	-08	18	01	34	clear
Hong Kong	16	61	18	64	rain
Jo'burg	16	61	29	84	clear
Lisbon	05	41	11	52	pcloudy
London	-01	30	03	37	clear
Los Angeles	09	48	15	59	rain
Madrid	03	37	08	46	clear
Montreal	-12	10	-03	27	pcloudy
Moscow	-02	28	01	34	snow
New York	-03	27	03	37	cloudy
Paris	-01	30	03	37	pcloudy
Rome	03	37	13	55	rain
Stockholm	-09	16	01	34	clear
Sydney	16	60	22	71	rain
Tokyo	02	36	08	46	cloudy
Toronto	-07	18	-01	30	snow

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TEL AVIV

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TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Keith Haring◇16th-19th Cent. European Art◇Impressionism, Post-Impressionism◇The School of Paris◇The Moshe and Sara Mayer Coll.◇Sculpture◇20th cent. Modern Masters - Mizne-Blumental Coll.◇Edvard Munch, selected prints◇Israeli Art - A Historic Presentation◇From New Horizons Onward. **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART.** Asim Abu-Shakra◇The Motif of Cactus in Israeli Art 1910-1990. Hours: Weekdays 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue., 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat., 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. **Art Education Center,** Tel. 6919155.

ORT. To visit our technological High Schools, call Jerusalem 513141; Tel Aviv 5203222, 5203293; Netanya 823744.

WIZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv 6923819; Jerusalem 256060; Haifa 388817.

HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Clalit, Straus A, 3 Avigdori, 706660; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
Tel Aviv: Ahva, 165 Dizengoff, 522-4717; Afarsemon, 110 Yehuda Halevi, 561-3010. Till 3 a.m. Thursday: Ben-Yehuda, 142 Ben-Yehuda, 5223535. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 6413730.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Arza, 36 Ostrovsky, Ra'anana, 431613.
Netanya: Karniel, Kiryat Nordau Commercial Center, 351774.
Krayot area: Harman, 4 Simtat Mo-di'in, Kiryat Motzkin, 707770/3.
Haifa: Derech Hayam, 209 Derech Hayam, 371472.
Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, obstetrics, ENT); Hadassah Mt. Scopus (surgery, orthopedics); Bikur Holim (pediatrics); Shaare Zedek (ophthalmology). In case of heart attack, attempted resuscitation, snake bite or scorpion sting, go immediately to nearest hospital.
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics, internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE	**100**
FIRE	**102**
FIRST AID	**101**

Magen David Adom

In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod* 551333	Karmiel* 988555
Ashkelon 551332	Kfar Sava* 902222
Bat Yam* 5511111	Kiron 9311111
Beersheba* 274767	K. Shmona* 944334
Beit Shemesh 523133	Nahariya* 912333
Dan Region* 5793333	Netanya* 623333
Eilat* 372333	Petah Tikva* 9311111
Hadera* 09-523333	Rehovot* 451333
Haifa* 512233	Rishon* 9642333
Hatzor* 920333	Safed 920333
Holon* 5511111	Tel Aviv* 5460111
Jerusalem* 523133	Tiberias* 790111

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110

Eran – Emotional First Aid. Jerusalem 610303, Tel Aviv 5461111 (children/youth 6961113), Haifa 672222, Beersheba 281128, Netanya 625110, Karmiel 9988770, Kfar Sava 974555, Hadera 346789.

Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-514111, 03-5461133 (also in Russian), 07-376310, 06-550506 (also in Amharic).

Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (men), Jerusalem 514455, Haifa 660111, Eilat 31977.

The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-529205, for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

VIOLINIST Gil Shaham performs Vivaldi's evergreen *Four Seasons* with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra under the baton of Mendi Rodan. After the intermission, the IPO performs excerpts from Berlioz's *Romeo and Juliet*. Tonight, tomorrow, Saturday and January 8, 10 and 11 at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv and January 12 at the Jerusalem's International Convention Center.

Idit (baroque flute) and David (harpsichord) Shemer present an evening of Bach music at the Jerusalem Rubin Music Academy at 8 tonight.

Tomorrow at 8:30 p.m. the Tel Aviv Symphony Orchestra opens its new series at Jaffa's Noga Theater, with Israel Philharmonic Orchestra members performing as soloists. Itai Talgam leads the orchestra in Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony and Liszt's Preludes. IPO principal cellist Michael Haran performs Schumann's Cello Concerto.



Gil Shaham gets into a seasonal mood with the IPO.

FILMS

ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★★ **INTO THE WEST** – Mike Newell's film isn't original, but it is lovely – a muted child's fantasy about two poor Dublin kids who forge a magical bond with a wild white horse and set off on bareback for the Irish coast, a place beyond time and adult supervision. The movie's thematic transparency (the wisdom of youth, the enchantment of Ireland, etc.) would be a failing in a movie for grown-ups. Here, in one of the best children's films of the last several years, the same see-through motifs have the power to transpose this rather prosaic boy-and-animal story to the grander realm of fable. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. General audiences.)

★★★★ **LIFETIMES** – If David O. Selznick were alive and Chinese, he might make a film like this one. Director Zhang (*Raise the Red Lanterns*) Yimou's most ambitious movie to date traces the lives of a simple family as they're rammed from one historical event to the next – Mao's revolution, the Great Leap Forward, the Cultural Revolution, *not to mention the several* operas' worth of personal tragedies they suffer. It's both exciting and perplexing for a Western viewer to encounter the film's peculiar psychological shallows and depths, its stylized shifts between pathos and humor, generality and the shockingly intimate. The inner life is either eclipsed or wildly externalized here, converted by the director into color, gesture and shadow. (Mandarin dialogue, English and Hebrew subtitles. Not recommended for children.)

TELEVISION

PENNY STARR

WEDNESDAY nights may be the night trendy Tel Avivians go out on the town, but the rest of us will be at home watching the box. It's a good night for it. There's something for everyone with Dan Shilon's excellent chat show on Channel 2 at 9:30. *At 9:45, there's the American comedy Cheers* on Channel 3. Channel 1 is offering the Israeli comedy *Shesh*, about a boy who loses everything during Purim, at 10:10. On Star Plus at 10, there's more inside info from Hollywood in *E! TV*, while Channel 3 at 10:10 offers a fantasy world of glamor and glitz on *Models Inc.*

CINEMA

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE **La Nuit Americaine** 7 ★ **Die Puppe** 9:30 ★ **Les Quatre Cents Coups** 9:30 G.G. GIL **Jerusalem Mall (Malha)** ☎ 788448 **The River Wild** 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ **The Real McCoy** 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ **Eretz Hadasha•Exotica** 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ **Timecop** 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ **Forrest Gump** 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ **Interview With the Vampire** 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The Specialist weekdays** 4:30, 7, 9:30 JERUSALEM THEATER **Lifetimes** 7, 9:30 ★ **Germinal** 6, 9 *ORION True Lies 4:45, 6:45, 9:15* ★ **The Client** 5, 7:15, 9:15 ★ **Priscilla•I Love Trouble•Natural Born Killers** 5, 7:30, 9:30 RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎ 792799 **Credit Card Reservations** ☎ 794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot **The Siren's Song•Nightmare Before Christmas•Mother's Boys•Barcelona** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Four Weddings and a Funeral** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Pulp Fiction** 4, 7, 9:45 ★ **Renaissance Man** 5, 7:15, 9:45 RON 1-2 ☎ 234704 1 Rabbi Akiva St. **Bad Girls•When a Man Loves a Woman** 5, 7:15, 9:30 SEMADAR **Burnt by the Sun** 7, 9:30 ★ **The Mask** 5

TEL AVIV
DEKEL ☎ 5443200 94 Yehuda Hamaccabi St. **It Could Happen To You** 7:30, 9:45 DIZENGOFF 1-3 ☎ 200485 Dizengoff Center **Gilbert Grape** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Into the West** 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Burnt by the Sun** 11 a.m., 4:15, 7 ★ *True Romance* 9:45 ★ **Germinal** 1:30 DRIVE IN **The Client** 10 ★ **Sex Film** 12 midnight GAN HA'IR **Priscilla** 5, 7:30, 9:45 GAT **Renaissance Man** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 GORDON **The Woman Who Made Sesame Oil** 6, 8 ★ **The Diary of Nani Moretti** 10 G.G. *HOD* 1–4 ☎ 5228090 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. **The River Wild•Priscilla•Eretz Hadasha** 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10 ★ **Forrest Gump** 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 10 LEV 1-4 ☎ 5288288 **Natural Born Killers** 4:45, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Lifetimes** 12 noon, 2:15, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Raining Stones** 12 noon, 2, 4, 8 ★ **Naked** 10 ★ **Ladybird** 12 noon, 2, 6 MAXIM **Speed** 7:15, 9:30 RAV-CHEN ☎ 5282288* **Dizengoff Center Pulp Fiction** 1:15, 4:15, 7, *9:45* ★ *Mother's Boys* 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Chasers•The Siren's Song** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **The Color of the Night** 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 RAV-OR 1-5 ☎ 5102674* **Opera House Serial Mom•Four Weddings and a Funeral•Nightmare Before Christmas•The Lion King (English dialogue)•Barcelona** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **The Lion King (Hebrew dialogue) weekdays** 5 G.G. SHAHAF 1-2 ☎ 5271645 Kikar Namir **Forrest Gump** 4:30, 7:15, 10 ★ **The River Wild** 5, 7:30, 10 G.G. TAYELET 1-3 ☎ 5177952 2 Yona Hanavi St. **The Client•Timecop** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Specialist** 5, 7:30, 10 G.G. TEL AVIV ☎ 5281181 65 Pinsker St. **The Real McCoy•Interview With the Vampire** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **The Specialist weekdays** 5, 7:30, 10 TEL AVIV MUSEUM ☎ 6961297 27 Shaul Hamelekh Boulevard **The House of Angels** 5, 7:30, 10 ZAFON **Exotica** 5, 7:30, 9:45

HAIFA
CINEMA CAFE AMAMI ☎ 325755 **Burnt by the Sun** 7 ★ **Priscilla** 7:15, 9:30 ★ **Priscilla** 7:15, 9:30 ATZMON 1-5 ☎ 673003 **Interview With the Vampire•The River Wild•The Real McCoy•Timecop** 4:30, 7, 9:15 CINEMA CAFÉ MORIAH ☎ 242477 **The Essence of Green Papaya** 7:30, 9:30 ORLY **Lifetimes** 6:45, 9:15 PANORAMA 1-3 ☎ 382020 **Forrest Gump** 4:30, 6:45, 9:30 ★ **Exotica•Eretz Hadasha** 4:30, 7, 9:30 RAV-GAT 1-2 ☎ 674311 **Pulp Fiction** 6:30, 9:15 ★ **Four Weddings and a Funeral** 4:45, 7, 9:15 RAV-MOR 1-7 ☎ 416899/8 **Renaissance** *Man*•**Gilbert Grape•The Color of the Night•Mother's Boys** 4:45, 7, 9:15 ★ **Four Weddings and a Funeral** 4:45, 7, 9:15 ★ **Pulp Fiction** 4, 6:30, 9:30 ★ **Forrest Gump** 4, 6:45, 9:30 RAV-OR 1-3 ☎ 246553 **Mother's Boys•Gilbert Grape•Nightmare Before Christmas** 4:45, 7, 9:15

ARAD
STAR **The River Wild** 7:15, 9:30 ★ **Interview With the Vampire** 7:15, 9:30**Timecop** 7:15, 9:30

ASHDOD
G.G. GIL **The Real McCoy•Interview with the Vampire•Four Weddings and a Funeral** 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The River Wild** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The Specialist** 4:30, 7:15, 9:45

ASHKELON
G.G. GIL **Interview with the Vampire•The Real McCoy•The River Wild** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Forrest Gump** 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ **The Specialist** 5, 7:15, 9:45 RAV CHEN 1-5 ☎ 711223 **Renaissance Man** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The Color of the Night** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Mother's Boys** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Four Weddings and a Funeral** 9:45 ★ **Pulp Fiction** 4, 7, 9:45 ★ **Chasers weekdays** 5 ★ **Angels** 5, 7:15

BAT YAM
RAV CHEN ☎ 5531077 **Interview with the Vampire•The Real McCoy** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The Specialist•The River Wild** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **The Color of the Night** 9:45 ★ **Chasers** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Timecop** 5, 7:15, 9:45

BEERSHEBA
G.G. GIL **Interview With the Vampire•The River Wild•The Real McCoy** 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Forrest Gump** 4:30, 7, 9:45 RAV-NEGEV 1-4 ☎ 235278 **Pulp Fiction** 4, 7, 9:45 ★ **Four Weddings and a Funeral** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **The Color of the Night•Chasers** 5, 7:30, 9:45

DIMONA
MOFET *The Color of the Night* 8

HADERA
LEV 1-4 ☎ 343555 **The River Wild** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Lifetimes** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **It Could Happen to You** 5, 7:15, 10

HERZLIYA
COLONY CINEMA 1-2 (MANDARIN) ☎ 6902666 **Forrest Gump** 7:30, 10:15 ★ **Four Weddings and a Funeral** 7:30, 10 DANIEL HOTEL ☎ 544044 THE AUDITORIUM **Exotica** 7:30, 9:30 STAR ☎ 589068 29 Sokolov St. **Timecop** 7:30 ★ **The River Wild** 7:30, 10 ★ **Priscilla** 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Ther Color of the Night weekdays** 10

HOD HASHARON
MOFET ☎ 405616
I Love Trouble 7:15, 9:30

KARMIEL
CINEMA 1-3 ☎ 887277 **Timecop** 7, 9:30 ★ **Forrest Gump** 10; 6:30, 9:15 ★ **Interview With the Vampire** 6:45, 9:15

KFAR SAVA
G.G. GIL **The River Wild** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The Color of the Night** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Forrest Gump** 4:45, 7:15, 10 ★ **Schindler's List** 4 ★ **Interview With the Vampire•Four Weddings and a Funeral•Eretz Hadasha** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

KIRYAT BIALIK
G.G. KIRYON 1-9 ☎ 779166 **The Specialist** 7, 9:30 ★ **Interview With the Vampire** 7, 9:30 ★ **Baby's Day Out•Angels•The Mask•Monkey Trouble•The Lion King** 4:45 ★ **The River Wild•The Real McCoy** 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ **The Color of the Night** 7, 9:30 ★ **Timecop** 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ **Eretz Hadasha** 7, 9:30 ★ **Four Weddings and a Funeral** 7, 9:30

KIRYAT MALACHI
HAKIRYA **Sirens** 5, 7:30, 9:30 MOFET **Timecop** 7:15, 9:30

KIRYAT ONO
MATNAS **The Color of the Night** 9:15 8 ★ **Baby's Day Out** 5, 7

LOD
STAR **Timecop** 7:15, 9:30 ★ **Interview With the Vampire** 7:15, 9:30 ★ **Four Weddings and a Funeral** 7:15, 9:30

NAHARIYA
HECHAL HATARBUT **The Siren's Song** 7, 9:15

NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 404729 **Interview With The Vampire** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The Real McCoy•The River Wild** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Forrest Gump** 4:30, 7, 9:45

NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 628452 **The River Wilde•Interview With The Vampire•The Real McCoy** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Forrest Gump** 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ **Timecop weekdays** 5, 7:15, 9:45 RAV-CHEN 1-4 ☎ 618570 **Pulp Fiction** 4, 7, 9:45 ★ **Renaissance Man** 5, 7:15, *9:45* ★ **Four Weddings and a Funeral** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ **Mother's Boys** 5, 7:30, 9:45

OR YEHUDA
G.G. GIL **The Color of the Night** 5, 7:15, *9:45* ★ **Angels** 5, 7:15, *9:45* ★ **Interview With the Vampire** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The River Wild** 4:30, 7, 9:45

PETAH TIKVA
G.G. HECHAL 1-3 ☎ 9300844 **Interview With the Vampire•The River Wild** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Natural Born Killers** 5, 7:15, 9:45 G. G. RAM 1-3 ☎ 9340818 **Forrest Gump** 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ **The Real McCoy•True Romance** 5, 7:15, 9:45

RA'ANANA
MOFET **True Romance** 7:15, 9:30 PARK **The River Wild** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Renaissance Man** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Natural Born Killers** 7:30, 10 ★ **Gilbert Grape** 5, 7:30, 10 ★ **Angels** 5 ★ **Four Weddings and a Funeral** 7:30, 10 **Baby's Day Out** 5

RAMAT GAN
RAV-GAN 1-4 ☎ 797121 **Pulp Fiction** 4, 7, 9:45 ★ **Forrest Gump** 7, 9:45 ★ **Renaissance Man** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Four Weddings and a Funeral** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Angels** 5 RAV-OASIS 1-3 ☎ 6730687 **Interview With The Vampire** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The Real McCoy** 5, 7:30, 9:45

RAMAT HASHARON
KOKHAV **Sirens** 7, 9:30

REHOVOT
CHEN 1–4 **Strawberry and Chocolate** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Lifetimes** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **The Hudsucker Proxy** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Forrest Gump** 7, 9:45

RISHON LEZION
HAZAHAV **Interview With The Vampire** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Forrest Gump** 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ **Angels** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 RAV CHEN **Mother's Boys** 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ *Pulp Fiction* 4, 7, *9:45* ★ *Renaissance* **Man** 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Chasers** 5, 7:30, 9:45

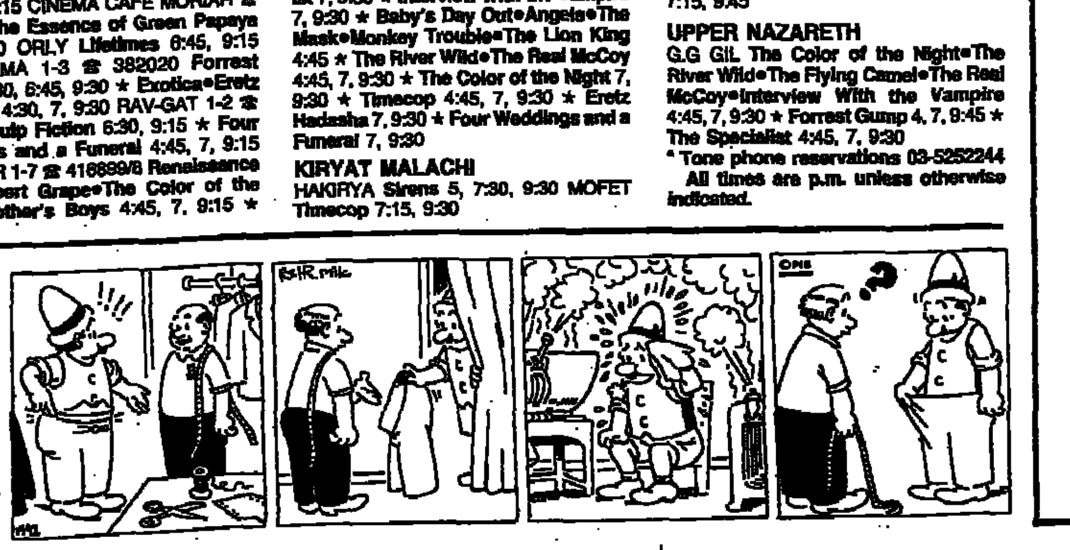
RISHON NEW IND. AREA
GAL 1-5 ☎ 9619669 **The River Wild•The Real McCoy•The Specialist•Timecop** 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 STAR 1-4 ☎ 9619985-7 27 Lishinsky St. **The Color of the Night** 9:45, ★ **Baby's Day Out** 7:15 ★ **The Siren's Song** 7:15, 9:45 ★ **Priscilla** 7:15, *9:45* ★ *The Client* 7:15 ★ **Les Marmottes** 7:15, 9:45

UPPER NAZARETH
G.G GIL **The Color of the Night•The River Wild•The Flying Camel•The Real McCoy•Interview With the Vampire** 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ **Forrest Gump** 4, 7, 9:45 ★ **The Specialist** 4:45, 7, 9:30

* Tone phone reservations 03-5252244

All times are p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

FERDNAND



TELEVISION

CHANNEL 1

6:30 News **6:45** Cartoon **7:00** Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Heart Beat – documentary series on ethnic music around the world **8:30** Arithmetic **8:50** Pioneer Israeli History **9:05** English: Candy Can Do It **9:25** Pretty Butterfly **10:00** Morning Talk with Batya Barak **10:30** Children's current affairs (rpt) **11:00** Judaism: Keshet v'anan **11:20** Literature **12:00** Life Sciences **12:20** Nature and Science (Arabic) **12:40** English: Radio Fever **13:05** Science and Technology **13:30** Keep Fit **14:00** Cartoons **14:10** *Animal tales* **14:30** *Moomins* **15:00** Zombit

CHANNEL 1

15:30 Three, Four, Five and a Half **16:00** Zap to One **17:00** A New Evening **17:35** What D'you Say **18:00** Rugrats **18:15** News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 Youth On Air 19:00 News in Arabic

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 The Simpsons **19:50** Hebrew language corner **20:00** Mabat **21:00** Conference Call – with Nissim Mishal **21:40** As Time Goes By **22:10** Comedy: Shesh – Yoel is a naive boy who loses everything he owns in a series of cruel but comic events over two days of Purim (54 mins) **23:05** Grace Under Fire **23:30** News

CHANNEL 2

14:00 Miracle at Moreaux – fantasy *drama* **15:00** Cartoons **15:05** The Wind in the Willows **15:30** Conan **16:00** The Bold and the Beautiful **17:00** Reshef at Five **17:30** Action – cinema program **18:00** Guys Next Door **18:30** Paradise Beach **19:00** Style Magazine **19:30** Who's the Boss **20:00** News **20:30** It's a Deal – game show **21:00** Itche – comedy with Sefi Rivlin **21:30** Live – Dan Shilon Hosts **23:00** Film: A Room With a View – Beautiful adaption of E.M. Forster's novel (115 mins) **00:00** News **00:05** A Room With a View (continued)

JORDAN TV (unofficial)

17:00 French programs **18:30** News in French **19:00** News in Hebrew **19:15** Battlestar Galactica **19:30** Coach **19:35** Coach **20:00** Life in the Freezer (documentary) **20:30** Quantum Leap **21:10** Law and Order **22:00** *News in English* **22:20** *Snowy River* **23:30** Coming of Age

MIDDLE EAST TV

14:00 The 700 Club **14:55** Film: Shotgun – Outlaws chase marshals who had put them behind bars **16:20** Mighty Mouse **16:55** Jonny Quest **17:20** Dangermouse **17:45** Superbook II **18:10** Hart To Hart **19:10** Rescue 911 **20:00** World News Tonight (Arabic) **20:30** CNN Headline News **21:00** Wings **22:20** Murder She Wrote **23:10** The 700 Club **00:00** Special Programs

CABLE

FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Local broadcast **9:00** One Life to Live **9:45** The Young and the Restless **10:30** Guests in the Living Room **11:00** I Love Lucy **11:30** Celeste **12:15** Neighbors **12:40** Falcon Crest **13:30** Designing Women **14:00** Israeli Clips **14:15** I'll Fly Away **15:00** Topaz **15:45** Knots *Landing* **18:35** *Neighbors* **17:00** *Love* Boat **17:50** Israeli Clips **18:05** One Life to Live **18:50** The Young and the Restless **19:30** Local broadcast **20:00** Celeste **20:50** Falcon Crest **21:45** Cheers **22:10** Models, Inc. **22:55** Silk Stalkings **23:45** Coach **00:10** The Commish **1:00** Murder She Wrote

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

10:30 Stranded (1987) (rpt) **11:50** Short movie **12:50** Woman of the Year (1941) (rpt) **14:40** Cops and Robbers (1991) – suspense drama **16:15** A *Breath of Scandal (1960) (rpt)* **17:55** Happy Endings (rpt) **19:30** Fatal Image (1990) (rpt) **21:00** Clear Cut (1991) – action drama about a Canadian Indian who protests against a paper mill's destruction of the environment by kidnapping the director. (98 mins) **22:40** Three of Hearts (1993) – romantic comedy (rpt) **00:35** Australia (1990) (rpt) **2:35** Canvas (1992) (rpt)

CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons **9:00** Cartoons **9:35** Dreamstone **10:00** The Three Mouseketeers **10:35** He-Man **11:05** Saved by the Bell **11:40** Beverly Hills 90210 **12:40** Owl TV **13:00** Cartoons **13:35** Benjamin Bluemchen **14:00** Three Little Ghosts **14:35** Super Dave **15:05** He-Man **15:35** Major Dad **16:00** Flying Classroom **16:10** Beverly Hills 90210 **16:55** *Flying Classroom* **17:05** *Beakman's World* **17:30** Tazmania **18:05** Dreamstone **18:30** The Three Mouseketeers **19:00** Cartoons **19:30** Three's Company **20:00** Married with Children **20:25** Hanging with Mr. Cooper **20:45** All in the Family **21:15** Law and Order

SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 Marnie (1964) – Psychological drama directed by Alfred Hitchcock (124 mins) **00:10** 13 Jours en France (1968) – Documentary about the 1968 Winter Olympics

DISCOVERY (8)

6:00 Open University: Social Sciences and Education **12:00** Equinox: The Bermuda Triangle **13:00** What Do the Old Films Mean? **13:30** Archeology **14:00** Open University (repeat of morning's programs) **16:00** *Equinox:* The Bermuda Triangle **17:00** What Do the Old Films Mean? **17:30** Archeology **18:00** Open University (repeat of morning's programs) **20:00** Search for Adventure **21:00** Wild South **22:00** Frontiers **22:30** The Next Step **23:00** Search for Adventure **23:50** Open University (repeat of morning's programs)

SUPER CHANNEL

7:00 Business Insiders **7:30** NBC News **8:00** ITN World News **8:15** US Market Wrap **8:30** Business Insiders **9:00** ITN World News **9:15** US Market Wrap **9:30** No details available **10:00** *Super Shop* **11:00** *Rolonda* **12:00** *Rivera Live* **13:00** Today's Business **13:30** FT Business Special **14:00** Today **16:00** The Money Wheel **18:30** FT Business Special **19:00** Today **20:00** ITN World News **20:30** Supersport **21:30** Dateline **22:30** No details available **23:00** ITN World News **23:30** The Tonight Show with Jay Leno **00:30** Real Personal **1:00** UK Today **1:30** Nightly News

STAR PLUS

6:00 Donahue **7:00** E! TV **7:30** Aerobics **8:00** Neighbors **8:30** Santa Barbara **9:30** The Bold and the Beautiful **10:00** Oprah Winfrey **11:00** Riviera **11:30** Eating Well **12:00** Aerobics **12:30** The Sullivans **13:00** Small Wonder **13:30** Robotech **14:00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles **14:30** Batman **15:00** E! TV **15:30** Neighbors **16:00** M*A*S*H **16:30** Doogie Howser M.D. **17:00** Anything But Love **17:30** Moonlighting **18:30** The Bold and the Beautiful **19:00** Santa Barbara **20:00** The Twilight Zone **20:30** *M*A*S*H* **21:00** *The Fall Guy* **22:00** *E! TV* **22:30** Neighbors **23:00** Movie: Quarantine **1:00** Richmond Hill

RADIO

VOICE OF MUSIC

6:06 Musical Matinee **9:00** Schumann: *Kinderscenen op 15; Mozart:* String quintet in G minor K516; Weber: Clarinet concerto no 2; Schumann: Violin concerto in D; Brahms: Double concerto in A minor for violin, cello and *orch; Beethoven:* Symphony no 4 **12:00** Light Classical – operettas **13:00** Andras Schiff plays Brahms, Mendelssohn and Beethoven **14:06** Encore **15:00** Keys **16:00** Monteverdi: Madrigals; Mozart: Piano concerto no 23; Mendelssohn: Te Deum; Chopin: Concert duo for cello and piano **18:00** Rossini: Ballet excerpt from The Siege of Corinth; Alkan: Concerto da camera in A minor for piano and orch op 20/2; Kiri Te Kanawa in arias from *La Boheme* and The Sound of Music; Wieniawski: Fantasy on theme from Gounod's Faust; Tchaikovsky: Excerpts from Nutcracker; Arensky: Suite no 1 for 2 pi*anos op 15; Dvorak:* Bagatelles for string trio and harmonium op 47; Faure: Suite from Pelleas et Melisande **20:05** Beethoven: Serenade in D op 8; Bizet: Jeux d'enfants suite for piano 4 hands **21:00** Sounds Meet Sounds – 50 years since the death of Elsa Lasker-Schüler

RADIO 1

6:06 Hebrew songs **7:00** News in English **7:15** News in French **7:30** Hebrew songs **8:05** Morning Magazine **13:00** News and program in English **13:30** News and program in French **14:05** Yiddish songs **15:05** Youth pro*gram* **16:05** Dial **17:00** News in English **17:02** News in French **17:05** Voice of the Arts **18:05** Religious programs **20:00** Evening news – TV broadcast **20:30** Judaism **21:35** Hassidic songs **22:05** Words that Try to Touch **23:05** *Hebrew songs*

RADIO 2

6:06 This Morning – news magazine **8:05** Another Matter **9:05** What We Had There **10:05** It's All Talk **12:05** Midday – news, commentary, music **14:05** Magic Moments **15:05** Foreign Affairs **15:45** Foreign Press **16:05** The Color of Money **17:05** Five After the *News* **18:05** *Today – newsreel* **19:05** The Arabs of Israel **20:00** Evening news – TV broadcast **20:30** Hebrew songs **21:05** Current affairs **23:05** News and music **00:05** Midnight Magazine **00:15** News and music, continued **1:05** Into the Night **5:05** First Light

RADIO 3

Music all day and night

REKA

18:00 News in English **18:15** News in French **20:00** News in Russian

ARMY RADIO

5:02 Good Morning IDF **6:05** Hebrew songs **6:30** Good Morning Israel **7:07** Seven-O-Seven **8:00** Good Morning Israel **9:05** It's Difficult in the Morning **10:05** *Right Now* **12:50** *Today's Entertainment* **13:00** Midday News **13:15** It's Uncertain **15:05** Someone to Talk To **16:00** An Hour Before **17:00** Good Evening Israel **18:05** Over the Horizon **18:30** Eavesdropping **20:00** Evening news – Channel 2 TV broadcast **20:30** Psychology **21:05** Program with Dubi Lentz **22:05** Vitamins **23:05** This Was the Day **00:10** Night Birds **2:00** We Don't Want to Sleep

ARMY ON WHEELS

7:05 The State on the Way **9:05** Songs **10:05** Sun **12:05** Air Conditioning **13:05** Showers **15:05** Program with *Yoav Kutner* **16:05** *Driving Wisely* **18:05** Program with Lea Oz **20:05** Below the Belt **22:05** Good Night

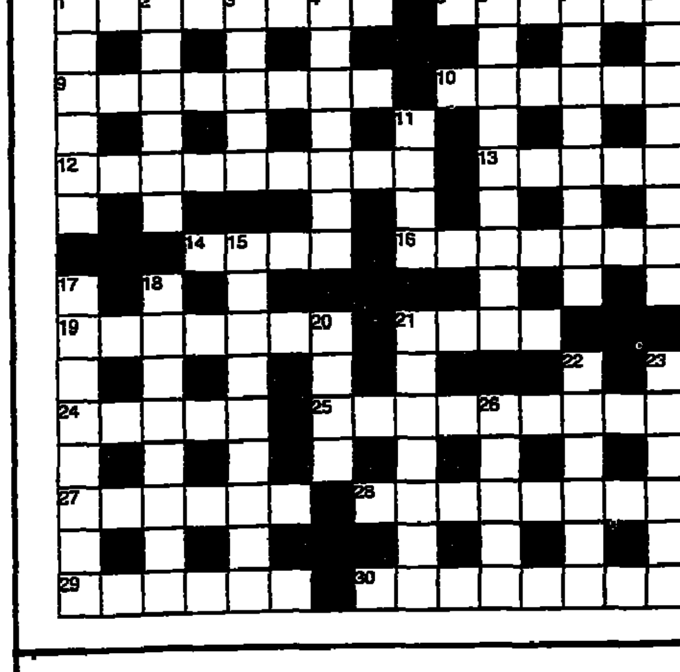
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

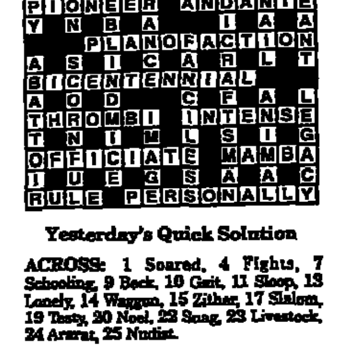
1 Charm one's way in (8)
5 Goes around in women's clothes (6)
9 Hanging on to a large *number of* fish surrounding trap (8)
10 The way a returning sailor and I see grey clouds (6)
12 What the shop lifter might do to case the joint (4,5)
13 Images in solid form (5)
14 Overcook the fish perhaps (4)
16 Perplex a mature enthusiast (7)
19 Firm stem (7)
21 A cheap fares scheme has point (4)
24 The key note is good for you (5)
25 Somehow nominates this state (9)
27 Sports day is cancelled, so go away (3,3)
28 Last bomb not so heavy—just a wretched nuisance (8)
29 OK in bed, but most shy (6)
30 Laurel produced a picture of a Scottish university (2,6)

DOWN

1 Name after former wife, to cause a stir (6)
2 Dresses—there's a stack in *the back street!* (6)
3 Vigilant fellow had his eyes on the peacock's tail (5)
4 Study the route and make a line on the map (7)
6 Bird *which makes the cat sit* up and take notice! (9)
7 Read about a young chap noted for having thought things out (8)
8 Sis cross when they cut her up! (8)
11 Get the bird when bringing other birds back (4)
15 Worker strikes when these restrict his power (9)
17 Mysterious secret ten cooked up (8)
18 The point in ecclesiastical preferment is to create big guns (8)
20 Song sounds as though it wasn't written for a lady (4)
21 Girl you said was allowed to have a little ring (7)
22 Appropriate headgear for a rowing man (6)
23 Grave cart? (6)
26 *Nigel out on the town* (5)



SOLUTIONS

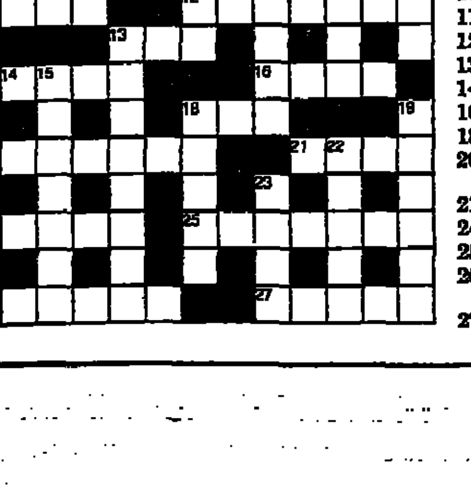


Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Soared, 4 Fights, 7 Schooling, 9 Beck, 10 Gait, 11 Sloop, 13 Lonely, 14 Waggon, 15 Zither, 17 Slalom, 19 Tasty, 20 Noel, 22 Snag, 23 Livestock, 24 Ararat, 25 Nudist.

DOWN: 1 Symbol, 2 Rick, 3 Dolly, 4 Follow, 5 Gong, 6 Soltan, 7 Schnitzel, 8 Gangplank, *12 Sleet, 13 Pally, 15 Zenana,* 16 Relent, 17 Staten, 18 Magnet, 21 Liar, 22 Scud.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Compose (5)
4 Swings round (6)
9 Convent (7)
10 Irrigate (5)
11 Country (4)
12 *Reside in* (7)
13 Spasm (3)
14 Wash all over (4)
16 Dance (4)
18 Relatives (3)
20 Provide monetary support (7)
21 Eyot (4)
24 Try (5)
25 Placards (7)
26 Drinking vessel (3,3)
27 Beneath (5)

DOWN

1 Cold season (6)
2 Something inside (5)
3 Not odd (4)
5 Common hedge bush (8)
6 Edible (7)
7 Elf (6)
8 Song (5)
13 Expression of gratitude (8)
15 Loss of memory (7)
17 Consequence (6)
18 Retains (5)
19 Not so great (6)
22 Pay out money (5)
23 Jacob's brother (4)

Health tax raises costs for most people – Fogel

EVELYN GORDON

SOME 95% of the population will be paying more as a result of the national health tax, outgoing Treasury director-general Aharon Fogel said yesterday, according to a briefing by a Knesset official.

At a farewell speech to the Knesset Finance Committee, Fogel reportedly said the health tax was essentially a tax on income – but unlike the income tax, it is regressive rather than progressive. It would therefore have been better simply to raise the income tax, he said.

Furthermore, he said, some 95% of the population will be paying about 20% more than they previously paid in health fees.

"This is not an optimal tax," he reportedly said. "It creates a very high tax burden."

There are two possible ways to make up for this increase, he added: by increasing the cost-of-living adjustment, or by reducing the "parallel tax."

Fogel also touched on a number of other topics in his address.

He strongly recommended investing more in bringing new immigrants here, noting that immigration has always paid off economically in the long run.

Regarding the kibbutz debt crisis, he said the time has come for the government to stop negotiating with the kibbutzim and to simply make a decision.

"We shouldn't leave a crack for anyone who thinks pressure will improve the situation," he reportedly said.

He criticized the government for the recent public-sector wage increases and for its "slow pace" in making decisions on the housing problem. However, he said, the latter was not the sole cause of inflation: Higher prices for produce and health care and an expansive monetary policy had also contributed.

The monetary problem, he stressed, should not be solved by interest-rate rises, since this – especially when combined with a real possibility of a stronger shekel – would threaten economic growth. Rather, the money supply should be reduced by decreasing credit for stock purchases.

One thing which Fogel said did not worry him was the increase in private consumption. This, he said, was due to lower unemployment, a lower tax burden, an improvement in immigrants' financial situations, rising incomes and rising consumer confidence – all positive signs.

Finance Committee chairman Gedalya Gal (Labor), while praising Fogel's contribution to the country's economy, made oblique reference to his occasional disputes with the political brass.

"Government officials must ... adjust themselves [to political realities] – not in the sense of adaptation, but [in the sense of] taking changes in the political system into account," he said.

Fogel responded that in any disagreement between the professionals and the politicians, it was always the politicians who decided. But the professionals' job, he said, must be to present all the alternatives.



Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer (foreground) inspects sketches of villas to be built for $150,000 in Matan, a new development near Kalkilya. (Yisrael Hadari)

Knesset panel approves basket of health services

DAN IZENBERG

THE Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee yesterday approved the Health Ministry basket of services to be provided by the four health funds, Clalit, Leumit, Maccabi and Meuhedet.

Committee chairman Yossi Katz said he decided to support the Health Ministry regulation defining the basket of services after it provided data countering the claims of the directors of the smaller health funds. On Sunday, the directors charged that the money they are to receive is insufficient to cover the basket of services and that they were being discriminated against in favor of Kupat Holim Clalit.

"The differences between the health funds are small," said Katz. "The funding is almost identical if you consider the capitation [i.e. the system of estimating patient costs according to demographic characteristics such as age]."

During the meeting, Health Ministry representative Gabi Ben-Nun said 13 percent of Clalit patients were aged 65 years or more, compared with 7.2% for Le'umit, 4.8% for Maccabi and 4.1% for Meuhedet.

Katz added that in addition to the funding for the basket of services, the smaller funds would receive extra money to help them in the transition to the new system. Le'umit will receive NIS 22 million, Maccabi NIS 170 million and Meuhedet NIS 63 million.

The government has also promised the committee that it will present a bill within the next two or three weeks to impose the health tax on members of the professional army. The tax will provide another NIS 100 million for health services.

Katz also said Kupat Holim Clalit had agreed to provide well-baby services to members of other funds in outlying areas on condition that the parties reach a satisfactory financial arrangement. A Clalit official said agreement has been reached whereby the smaller funds will purchase well-baby services from Clalit in the center of the country.

Peres blames Labor malaise on primary system

SARAH HONIG

SHOULD the Labor Party's malaise continue, it will soon lose power and "we ourselves will be responsible for turning over the reins to the Likud," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres warned supporters yesterday.

Peres put much of the blame on the system of primaries employed by Labor in 1992 and said he is "studying a variety of alternatives" for the first direct election of the prime minister in 1996.

This is expected to put him on a direct collision course with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, one of the most enthusiastic advocates of direct elections.

Among those who participated in the meeting at Peres's office were Deputy Minister Masha Lubelsky, Jewish Agency Aliya Department chairman Uri Gordon, Holon Mayor Motti Sasson, former ministers Avraham Katz-Oz and Yehezkel Zakai.

Peres had harsh words about the state of Labor today. "A number of Labor politicians have divested themselves of all responsibility and are conducting themselves as if there is no central authority and no party discipline," he said. He ascribed this mainly to the primaries, which he charged have "wrought great damage to Labor" in making politicians feel they owe no allegiance to the party leadership.

Peres further complained that the party is fast losing the support of new immigrants from the former Soviet Union and said it continues to fail to appeal to oriental Jews. Labor has lost its power bases in the local authorities and the Histadrut, which is in shambles, and the kibbutz movement is experiencing the deepest crisis in its history, according to Peres's list of Labor woes.

The direct election of the prime minister harbors a danger to democracy, he said, unless it is accompanied by parallel reforms in the Knesset elections. "This is a subject which requires the greatest of care and nothing should be rushed into," he cautioned. He supports reform, though he has not yet decided on its precise form and extent, he told the meeting.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin, along with allied MKs Avraham Burg and Yael Dayan, are due to submit legislation to the Knesset that would overhaul its electoral system and possibly delay the direct election of the next prime minister. Beilin has long opposed direct elections, considering them dangerous in a system of government which lacks proper checks and balances. Beilin has claimed recently that he has Peres's support on the legislative initiative.

The matter is due to be raised in late March or April at the Labor convention, where Peres and Rabin could be at loggerheads if Peres does not pull back.

A source close to Rabin said, "There is no chance whatever Rabin will change his mind on a matter to which he is deeply committed. This is one of the issues closest to his heart." The source noted that Rabin made it a point to put his name on the Labor ballot in the 1992 elections, still held under the old system, to lend the campaign the image of direct elections.

The issue also splits the Likud, with chairman Binyamin Netanyahu an ardent supporter of direct elections, against former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir, Likud executive chairman Uzi Landau, MK Ariel Sharon, and most of the rest of the party.

Livnat accuses Segev of issuing false medical certificates for bribes

SARAH HONIG

LIKUD MK Limor Livnat has written Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair demanding that he examine information that Yi'ud MK Gonen Segev had issued bogus medical certificates in return for bribes, when he served as the Hamat Gader health spa doctor.

Livnat has already filed a complaint against Segev, which is being investigated by the police.

Ben-Yair turned the information over to police, asking that they attempt to verify various details. But he denied that he had ordered the police to open an investigation against Segev.

Segev was appointed energy minister by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin last month, and his appointment will be submitted to the Knesset plenum for approval next week. He and MK Alex Goldfarb, who were elected on the Tsomet list, split off last year to form the Yi'ud faction, which they are now taking into the coalition.

Goldfarb began serving yesterday as deputy housing minister, an appointment which does not require Knesset ratification.

Livnat reported that according to a letter she had received, Segev had, in return for payment, issued false documents to people saying they had spent time at the spa for medical treatment. These papers were sought by Holocaust survivors, who were then reimbursed for their expenses at the spa by the German government.

In her previous complaint, Livnat also accused Segev of bribe-taking. She alleged that he received considerable amounts of money from Hamat Gader for "consultation," when in effect no work was done. The aim, she wrote the attorney-general, was to pay for Segev's influence to win approval for new construction.

In that episode, Segev also exceeded the amount he is allowed by law to earn above his Knesset salary. Segev returned the money to Hamat Gader following Livnat's revelations.

62% of Israeli Arabs reject Islamic Movement

Sixty-two percent of Israeli Arab voters reject the Islamic Movement, and only 19% would vote for an Islamic party if one were established, according to a poll taken by the Almidan Institute.

Twenty percent of those polled said "they are not against [the Islamic Movement], but do not identify with it."

Among the Arabs of eastern Jerusalem, however, only 38% reject the Islamic Movement. Twenty-three percent identify with it, and 39% "do not identify but are not against [it]."

Five hundred people were polled, representing a cross-section of the Arab community. The survey was conducted in Arabic.

Histadrut staff gets only half of December pay

MICHAL YUDELMAN

HISTADRUT workers yesterday received only half of December's wages due to the Histadrut leadership's failure to raise the required funds – some NIS 55 million – for current expenses, including salaries and social benefits.

Histadrut Treasurer MK Haim Oron said the financial difficulties were caused by the accumulated deficit of some NIS 1.2 billion and the legal difficulties the Histadrut has run into in trying to sell some of its properties and assets.

The Histadrut was unable to pay its workers' wages last month, despite the fact that in December it was still getting the funds which it deducts from its members' fees to Kupat Holim Clalit.

The real financial difficulties, Histadrut sources said yesterday, are expected to start this month, since the state health insurance law has now severed the Histadrut from its health fund.

The Histadrut has not yet reached an agreement with the employers concerning the organization tax, which is to be deducted from employees' wages and transferred to the Histadrut to ensure its continued existence.

Ramon cuts the branch he's sitting on

COMMENT

MICHAL YUDELMAN

THE Treasury's walking out of the package deal talks yesterday placed the Histadrut in a double bind.

By deciding to lower the health tax for employers unilaterally, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat has in fact given the employers what they wanted from the package deal. The Histadrut will now find it much more difficult to wrestle any of its demands for the workers out of the employers, *without giving up something significant* in return.

The employers are demanding that the already dwindled cost of living raise be cut, while the Histadrut wants to reduce the work week, update the minimum wage, and add a tax credit point for working women, among other demands.

But the employers are holding another ax over the Histadrut's head: the organization tax, which is the Histadrut's life-line now that it is cut off from its membership fees to Kupat Holim Clalit with the advent of the state health insurance law. The employers are linking the organization tax agreement – whereby they will deduct the tax from the workers wages and transfer it to the Histadrut – *with the overall wage* agreement.

If the Histadrut agrees to the employers' demand to reduce the cost of living increase, it would appear to be selling the workers' interests down the river. If it does not, it might suffocate without the organization tax oxygen.

The employers are aware of this, and realize that there really is no central body with which to sign a package deal. It is far from clear which union members or how many would agree to pay the Histadrut's membership fees, and which would opt for remaining independent.

Even the Histadrut's traditional ultimate weapon – the general strike – has lost its clout, to a large extent. Having cut off the Histadrut from its health fund, Chairman Haim Ramon has effectively broken the labor federation's financial and administrative spine.

He has also chopped off the branch he was sitting on. Until the organization tax is implemented, the Histadrut has no income and has therefore ceased, or is on the verge of ceasing, to be the federation of hundreds of labor unions.

If Ramon calls on the workers to strike today, how many would follow his call? More likely, each union would make its own decision based on its workers' interests.

Israel may cancel Russian flights here

HAIM SHAPIRO

CIVIL Aviation Administration head Menachem Sharon yesterday warned that unless Russia honors its side of the Israeli-Russian aviation agreement, Israel may ban Russian planes from landing in Israel.

On Monday night, El Al canceled its scheduled flight to Moscow after a series of incidents last week in which the Russian police barred El Al security guards from carrying weapons. The Russian move had resulted in a stiff protest by Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar and behind the scenes activity by the Foreign Ministry. However, so far the Russians have not indicated they will change their approach.

It was still unclear, Sharon said, why the Russians had interfered with the Israeli security guards in the first place. According to one supposition, security has been increased at Russian airports as a result of the fighting in Chechnya.

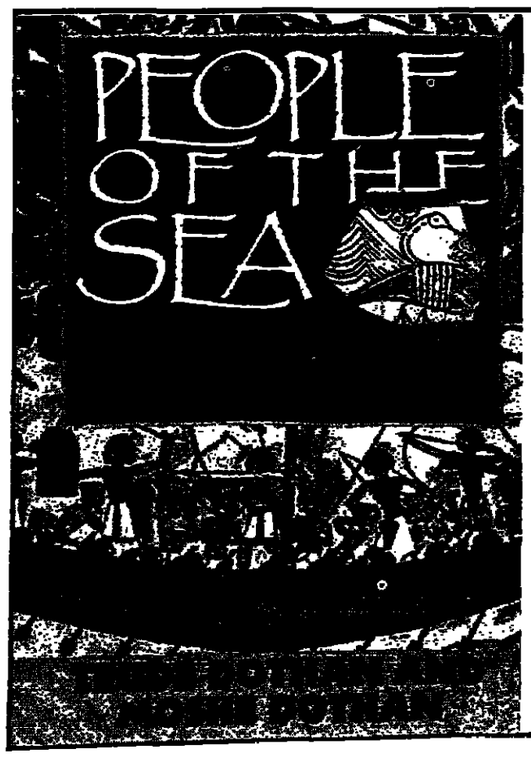
Sharon said that before taking the drastic step of barring flights from Russia, Israel would try to settle the issue through all possible channels. However, he added, it would not be acceptable for El Al to have to cancel its flights, while the Russian companies were able to fly unhindered.

"We can't tolerate a situation in which only El Al planes are affected," said Sharon.

The decision, he said, would probably come at the end of the week. Meanwhile, he said, it was unlikely that the El Al flight scheduled to leave tonight for Moscow would be taking off.

Sharon said there were four scheduled flights a week to Russia by El Al, while the Russian companies, Aeroflot and Transaero, had nine or 10 a week to Israel. In addition, he said, there were special flights which brought new immigrants to Israel.

Sharon noted that any decision to ban flights from Russia would probably not affect the special flights for immigrants.



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Former Likud campaign worker arrested for allegedly giving out voters' registry

BILL HUTMAN

A LIKUD campaign official during the 1993 local elections was arrested yesterday on suspicion he turned over a copy of the national voters' registry to an entrepreneur for private use, a senior police source said.

The entrepreneur, Reuven Milman, who was arrested last month, is suspected of violations of privacy in the sale of a computer disk containing personal information on local residents.

His arrest brings to a close a year-long investigation into how the registry, which includes personal details on every voter, had fallen into the hands of a private firm. The NIS 3,000 disk sold by Milman has been used for some time by some newspapers and private investigators.

The suspect, a 41-year-old Rishon Lezion insurance salesman who worked for the Likud during the election, was released on bail after several hours of questioning.

Milman, who was remanded last week, was also released on bail yesterday.

The police source said the police intended to turn their information over to the State Attorney's Office, with a recommendation that charges be filed against both suspects.

The voters' registry was given to the all the political parties by the Interior Ministry to allow them to canvas voters during the campaign, on condition it be used only by the party and returned after the election.

Ministry officials noted that the law requires this be done for every election. The recent transfer of the register to compact disk, however, made it easier to copy and misuse than in the past, they said.

هكذا من الأصل